

Season Two: "Broader Lands and Better Days"

Episode 8 "The Spark of Hope"

by

D.K. Trueno

Based on "Fallout 76" by Bethesda Softworks

Anthria Fantasy Works 1000 Scotsburg Trail Hillsborough, NC 27278 +1 (919) 672-8186

## "THE SPARK OF HOPE"

## INT. FLAGRANTE BELLO PORTAL ROOM - EVENING

The portals working in harmony, BETH and ODESSA prepare to switch places with their counterparts and return home.

Lines 1-7 will be re-used from E7 and should not be recorded.

1	ODESSA Dath 2. It / a. t ima	1
1	Beth? It's time.	1
2	BETH Odessa I have faith, but I'm still concerned. What if it sends us somewhere else? Somewhere with no way home?	2
3	ODESSA Wherever we go, we'll be together.	3
4 5	BETH And that's all I need. (beat) We're ready.	4
J	we le leady.	3
6	AMANDA Here we go!	6
7	<b>DEVON</b> Almost there. 38.1. 38.3 38.5!	7
	There is a flash and crackle, and a loud, staccato pul BETH and ODESSA are pulled into the portal.	se as
	Back in our universe	
	NOTE: "ALT-" VOICES ARE DISTORTED BECAUSE WE'RE HEARING THROUGH THE PORTAL. USE SAME EFFECT AS IN E7.	IG THEM
	RAHMANI	
8	(urgently) Where did they go?	8
9	(beat) Devon?	9
10	ALT-ODESSA Amanda! I missed you so much!	10
11	<b>ALT-AMANDA</b> Is it really you?	11
12	ALT-ODESSA It's really me!	12

2.	

13	ALT-AMANDA We have something very important to talk about.	13
14	ALT-ODESSA Uh-oh	14
15	ALT-AMANDA No, no! It's good news!	15
16	DEVON Do you have them?	16
17	ALT-DEVON Yes! They kind of blipped out for a second, but they're here. No ill effects that I can see. Beth?	17
18	ALT-BETH I feel fine. It's nice to be back in my own body.	18
19	ALT-DEVON We're good over here. How about you?	19
20	DEVON  Still trying to figure that out.  Our Beth and Odessa haven't popped back in yet. Got to be some kind of anomaly	20
21	RAHMANI We need to figure it out, and now. Scribe Hargrove, any ideas?	21
22	HARGROVE  We may need to modulate the resonance frequency again. It was tuned to that specific universe. If we move slowly	22
23	RAHMANI Do it!	23
24	HARGROVE Yes, ma'am.	24
	HARGROVE moves to the console and fiddles with the sound of the portal changes slightly.	the controls.
25	DEVON Look!	25

The sound of the portal flickers as Beth and Odessa pop in and out of existence.

26		Almost got them but it's like something's fighting me, trying to keep them from staying here. That's why they keep disappearing and reappearing.	26
27		RAHMANI Devon, have you ever seen this before?	27
28		DEVON No. Well, not exactly. Every time they reappear, it looks exactly the same as someone emerging from the Nexus.	28
29		RAHMANI And?	29
30		DEVON When I got shunted into the Nexus by the Untainted, it was because they damaged the console we were using to control the portal.	30
31		RAHMANI So we're causing them to phase in and out?	31
32		DEVON I think that may be what's happening, yes. They're trying to come back, but there isn't a stable doorway to come back through.	32
33		RAHMANI David! Hands off the controls!	33
34		HARGROVE Yes, ma'am!	34
	-	a few moments. The portal stays steady but Beth not emerge.	and
35		RAHMANI Nothing. We need them back, Devon.	35
36		DEVON Scribe Hargrove, shut the console down.	36

	HARGROVE	
37	What?	37
38	DEVON Shut it down!	38
39	RAHMANI Do it, David!	39
40	HARGROVE Shutting it down now.	40
	HARGROVE powers off the console. The portal's sound chang to a much less strident tone. After a few moments, BETH a ODESSA emerge.	
41	<b>BETH</b> Well. That was well, that was quite something. Odessa, are you okay?	41
42	ODESSA Yes. Are you you?	42
43	<b>BETH</b> I think so. I <i>feel</i> like me. (beat)	43
44	Wait, I know. Erm, avert your eyes, everyone.	44
	BETH pulls up her skirt.	
45	BETH (CONT'D) Is it there?	45
46	ODESSA  It is! I've never been so happy to see a scar in my life.	46
	BETH pulls her skirt back down. She and ODESSA kiss.	
47	ODESSA (CONT'D) How long were we gone?	47
48	RAHMANI Um three minutes, give or take?	48
49	ODESSA Three <i>minutes</i> ? Are you sure?	49
50	RAHMANI  How long do you think you were  gone?	50

	ODESSA	
51	It was weeks. I was starting to think we might not make it home. That we'd just have to make a life together somewhere else.	51
52	BETH  Every time we a portal appeared, we hoped it would bring us back here.  But they just kept dropping us in different places. Different universes.	52
53	ODESSA Until now.	53
54	RAHMANI So portals kept appearing?	54
55	ODESSA Yes. It wasn't a consistent amount of time between them, sometimes it was a few hours, sometimes it was a few days. They tended to be somewhere near where we were.	55
56	BETH But not always.	56
57	RAHMANI The important thing is that you're back. Well, and that you're yourselves again. Still, I'd like to have Dr. Hardy check you over back at Atlas.	57
58	ODESSA That's a good idea. There's something I need to talk to him about anyway.	58
59	BETH (tenderly) Yes we'll want to get that sorted.	59
60	RAHMANI What is it?	60
	(beat)	
61	Something private. I'm sorry.	61

		6.
62	ODESSA  It's okay. I just don't want to talk about it until I have some clarity, that's all.	62
63	<b>BETH</b> No matter what he says	63
64	ODESSA I know.	64
ODESS.	A gathers herself.	
65	<pre>ODESSA (CONT'D) Let's head to Atlas.</pre>	65
66	HARGROVE Devon and I will keep working on things here. It looks like your excursion generated a lot of telemetry for us to work with. It will take some time to analyze, but it will be worth it.	66
67	RAHMANI After you see Dr. Hardy, I want you to go home and relax. We'll alert you if we have any breakthroughs, but you need to rest.	67
68	ODESSA Leila, I can	68
	RAHMANI (interrupting)	
69	(interrupting) That's an order, Scribe Valdez. And while I don't have direct authority over you, Beth, I suggest you do the same.	69
70	No argument here, Paladin. We're going to need to remain sharp if we're going to solve this, and right now well, it's been a long few weeks. I'll tie Odessa to a chair if I have to.	70
ODESS	A chuckles.	

ODESSA
I'll be good, I promise. But
please, if anything big happens, or
if I can help... 

	RAHMANI (interrupting)	
72	You'll be my first call.	72
73	ODESSA Thank you.	73
	MUSICAL TRANSITION	
	INT. BETH AND ODESSA'S HOME, AFTERNOON	
	BETH and ODESSA are relaxing.	
74	BETH  If there's one thing I'm going to miss about the mirror universe, it's the food.	74
75	ODESSA I know And I wish we could've eaten at Amanda's restaurant!	75
	BETH giggles.	
76	BETH That would've been brilliant! I suppose it isn't much of a surprise that she's such a successful businesswoman. Especially with such a great partner by her side.	76
77	ODESSA  I kind of wish I'd had time to learn more about that Odessa. I got the highlights, but that's really just scratching the surface of who she is. The people I interacted with who knew her - Captain Houston, Doctor Clark, even Devon - they didn't catch on that I was a totally different person.	77
78	<b>BETH</b> Well, not <i>totally</i> different. You were still brilliant.	78
79	ODESSA (playfully) Oh, yeah? Anything else?	79
	BETH (playing along)	
80	(playing along) Driven, clearly.	80

7.

81	ODESSA Mmm hmm. Brilliant and driven. That all?	81
82	BETH Well, there may have been some other similarities	82
83	ODESSA Such as?	83
84	BETH Well, there seem to have been some physical attributes in common as well.	84
85	ODESSA Were you checking out my mirror universe version?	85
BETH laugh	ıs.	
86	BETH In my defense, we weren't sure at first if there had been a body swap.	86
87	ODESSA I see.	87
	BETH	0 /
88	But, you know	88
89	ODESSA What is it?	89
90	BETH Perhaps we should compare our observations. For science, of course.	90
91	ODESSA Of course. I don't have a Navy uniform handy, though	91
92	BETH I thought we could start with a more basic exam.	92
93	ODESSA I think I see where you're going with this establish a baseline. No uniforms to, um get in the way of our observations.	93

		9.
94	BETH Precisely.	94
95	ODESSA  Maybe I'll make a scientist out of you yet.	95
96	<b>BETH</b> Shall we get started, Doctor Valdez?	96
	The doorbell rings.	
97	ODESSA Get rid of them.	97
	BETH laughs.	
98	BETH Alright, alright!	98
	BETH goes to the door and opens it.	
99	BETH (CONT'D) Amanda!	99
100	AMANDA Hey, you two. I brought some food.	100
101	BETH  (flustered)  Um, thanks, I	101
	AMANDA sweeps in.	
102	AMANDA Hey, you!	102
103	ODESSA  (awkward)  Hi, Amanda. How are you? Did we  miss anything while we were gone?	103
104	AMANDA  Nope! It was nice and quiet. Cindy and I even got to spend some quality time together.	104
105	BETH Oh, that must've been nice. She's	105

106	AMANDA I think Valeria just wants her to keep an eye on whatever's going on with these portals, but I'll take it.	106
107	BETH  Has the Enclave taken more of an interest in what's been happening?  When we left, they seemed  strangely disinterested.	107
108	AMANDA  I never bought that for one second. There are two groups in Appalachia that would be all over whatever the hell this is - the Brotherhood and the Enclave. I bet Valeria and MODUS started Enclave-ing it up as soon as you walked through that first portal.	108
109	BETH I'm sure they did.	109
	There is an awkward pause.	
110	AMANDA Are you okay, Odessa? You're kind of quiet over there.	110
111	ODESSA (still awkward) Yeah. I'm okay. Glad to be home.	111
112	AMANDA You two need to give me all the details from your little adventure. Maybe you can come to the Web, we can knock a few back and you can tell me all about it what it was like, who you met, how much you missed me	112
113	ODESSA I need to lie down.	113
	ODESSA leaves.	
114	AMANDA What's wrong? What did I do? BETH sighs.	114

	ВЕТН	
115	It's nothing like that. There	115
	were well, some things about that universe hit a bit close to	
	home for both of us.	
116	<b>AMANDA</b> Anything you want to talk about?	116
110	myeming you want to tark about.	110
117	BETH	117
11/	For starters, I had a sister.	117
110	AMANDA	110
118	A sister? Really?	118
	BETH	
119	Really. Three years younger than	119
	<pre>me. I guess not being in the Vault gave my parents the freedom to have</pre>	
	a bigger family.	
	(almost, but not quite	
120	skeptical) They always told me they never	120
	seriously considered having another	
	child after me.	
	AMANDA	
121	And you believe them, right?	121
	BETH sighs.	
	-	
122	<b>BETH</b> They wouldn't lie to me about	122
122	something like that.	122
100	(beat)	100
123	I don't know how I'm going to bring it up when I talk to them. Or if I	123
	even want to.	
	AMANDA	
124	<b>AMANDA</b> I think they'd want to know.	124
	<u>-</u>	
125	<b>BETH</b> I do as well. But what if they	125
123	tried to have another child, and it	123
	didn't happen? Or what if I did	
	have a sister, but we lost her	
	and the pain was too much for them to bear to talk about it, even with	
	me? I don't want to tear open any	
	old wounds.	
	ora woulder	

126	AMANDA You can't think that way. You said it yourself, they wouldn't lie to you about that kind of thing.	126
127	BETH Would it even be a lie, though?	127
128	AMANDA Babe, you need to take a step back.	128
129	BETH I know. I just need to remember "semper veritas." That's what saved my relationship with Odessa and my parents deserve that respect as well.	129
130	AMANDA There you go. Do you want to tell me about her?	130
131	BETH  Her name is Alexandra - Alex. She was brilliant. Blonde, gorgeous, smart as a whip. She was studying law at Cambridge.	131
132	AMANDA  I'm going to go ahead and assume that's impressive. Was she tall, like you?	132
133	BETH Not quite. She was only 5'10.	133
	AMANDA chuckles.	
134	AMANDA Absolutely tiny. Did you carry her around in your pocket?	134
	BETH laughs.	
135	BETH  She was fun, too. And so confident.  She practically glided when she walked. And kind.	135
136	AMANDA She must've had a great role model to look up to.	136

	BETH	
137	Odessa was talking about how she wishes she'd been able to learn more about that version of herself. I feel the same way. To really get a good look at how I would've turned out with the same amazing parents but no Great War, no Vault-Tec, none of the people who hurt me.	137
	AMANDA	
138	(comforting) Hey, hey. I don't know anything about that Beth, but this version of you is one of the best human beings I've ever met. I wish you didn't go through any of the shit that you did in the Vault, and I still plan to kill anyone I find out was involved, but the fact is that you turned out great in spite of that. Just think about the woman who's lying down right now, in the bed you share every night. Do you think Odessa Valdez is going to put her heart on the line for just anybody? Hell no she's not! But she's doing that for you.	138
139	BETH I think this experience brought us closer together. We really can face anything, as long as we're together.	139
140	AMANDA Good thing both of you got, uh swapped.	140
141	Yeah. I'm sure we would've gotten it sorted if it was, say, Rahmani and I, but still. It being her felt important. It was a good thing Bones noticed that portal underneath your restaurant	141
142	AMANDA Wait. I thought you were in DC?	142
	BETH	
143	We were. Your restaurant and bar - the originals - were downtown. (MORE)	143

	BETH (CONT'D)  Great location, I can see why it was such a success.	
144	AMANDA So I owned a bar in two different cities in two different universes, and that's where all these portal shenanigans started?	144
145	BETH Hrm. Yes. I hadn't thought about it that way. I'd call it a coincidence, but Odessa's taught me that those are about as worthy of trust as a Vault-Tec employee.	145
AMANDA	A sighs.	
146	AMANDA This is bullshit. Rahmani told me about the accident and that they were working on getting everybody back to where they belonged. But it sounds like I'm smack dab in the middle of this, no matter what universe we're talking about and I didn't know.	146
147	BETH You weren't brought in?	147
148	AMANDA  No! She told me they were working on getting you back and they'd bring me in if they needed access to the basement. I was ready to slap her. The other Beth and Odessa were locked up in Atlas and she wouldn't let me see them. She was super weird about it, too.	148
149	BETH She wouldn't have known about the portal in the other Amanda's	149

basement, so that part tracks, at least. But I don't understand why she wouldn't bring you in to try to figure out a solution. You're one

something. I still don't know what

of the Seven, and that means

yet, but something.

150	AMANDA She's one of the Seven, too. She should've trusted me.	150
	ВЕТН	
151	I don't know that it's a matter of trust.	151
	AMANDA	
152	What are you talking about?	152
	BETH	
153	I've spent a lot of time with Rahmani lately. She trusts you. It even became a bit of a bone of contention between her and Derek before he got to know you. It's just	153
	AMANDA	
154	Come on. Spill.	154
BETH s	righs.	
155	BETH  Her thought may have been that you meeting the other version of Odessa would've introduced complications.	155
	AMANDA	
156	"Complications?" What the hell are you talking about?	156
	BETH	
157	While we were there, it became quite apparent that we're different people from our counterparts, with different relationships and different personal histories. Rahmani may have just been trying to limit everyone's exposure to that.	157
	AMANDA	
158	Meanwhile, you and Odessa were rubbing elbows with me, your parents, god knows who else	158
	ВЕТН	
159	There wasn't anything we could do about that!	159

	AMANDA	
160	It just feels like there's more to this. And Odessa is avoiding me, which is something she's never done, even when things got er, complicated.	160
161	BETH Just give her time. She has a lot to process. Not just about you.	161
162	AMANDA  Not just about me? That means it is about me, at least partly. Jesus, what happened over there? Was I an asshole?	162
163	BETH No, no. I didn't get to talk with you much, but you were lovely. We were all going to have dinner, in fact, but we ended up coming back home before that happened.	163
164	AMANDA Huh. I don't get it.	164
165	BETH  If there's anything Odessa feels that she needs to discuss with you about this, she will. She might just need to figure out how to do it.	165
166	AMANDA Okay. I'll take your word for it. And I won't push it. But I don't want things to be awkward, so you guys know where to find me, okay?	166
167	<pre>(beat) And Beth. There's nothing either of you can't talk to me about, okay?</pre>	167
168	BETH I know.	168
ODESSA op	ens the door.	
169	ODESSA  Beth? I think we should get started on that assessment we talked about. I'm ready whenever you are.	169

170	AMANDA I'll head back to the Web. Have fun with your assessment, but try to get some rest, too, okay?	170
171	BETH Thanks. And we'll talk soon.	171

# END OF ACT ONE

17.

# ACT TWO

# INT. KIRBY HOME, DAY.

ANDREW and ELISE are in the living room. The doorbell rings. ELISE opens the door.

172	ELISE Schatzi! How are you feeling? And how is Odessa?	172
173	BETH I feel fine, mum. Odessa does as well. Thank you for asking. We've been resting as much as we can, but both of us want to be in the thick of it right now.	173
	ELISE	
174	I understand. Standing on the sidelines can be difficult, but in this case it's the right thing to do, at least for a little while.  (beat)	174
175	I thought Odessa would be with you. Are you sure she's alright?	175
	BETH	
176	Yes. There were some things that I wanted to discuss with you and dad, privately.	176
	ELISE	
177	Oh. I see. What would you like to discuss?	177
	BETH	
178	It's about the other universe. Who we were, what we saw what we learned. But first how are you feeling, dad?	178
	ANDREW	
179	A little tired, but mostly fine.	179
180	BETH Are you eating?	180
	ANDREW	
181	I am. Amanda and Elise have made sure of that.	181

182	BETH  Good. The first thing I wanted to ask you about did you ever think about having another child, after me?	182
183	ANDREW Well, we did consider it, but in the end we decided that our family was perfect just as it was.	183
184	<b>ELISE</b> We've talked about this, Schatzi.	184
185	BETH I know, I know. It's just	185
186	ANDREW It's just what?	186
187	BETH In the other universe I had a sister. Three years younger than me. We were apparently very close.	187
188	ANDREW Oh. I think I understand now.	188
189	BETH I know that things there are fundamentally different from the way they are here. But there were so many things that were the same, I started wondering if that was one of them.	189
190	ELISE  No, dear. If our situation had been different, perhaps our family would have ended up in a different configuration. But it didn't.	190
191	ANDREW  Fear not, you don't have a long- lost sister out there somewhere.	191
BETH o	chuckles.	
192	BETH I think Derek's reappearance satisfied my "soap opera moment" quota for a long while.	192

193	ELISE How is that situation going?	193
194	Well, aside from me almost ruining everything by worrying about whether Odessa was going to leave me for him, I think it's finally sorted. In a way, us being yanked out of this universe and shoved into another was the best thing that could've happened it allowed us to focus on what's really important. Well	194
195	ANDREW What is it?	195
		100
BETH sigh	ns.	
196	You have to promise not to say anything. It's awkward enough already.	196
197	ANDREW You have our word.	197
198	BETH Odessa was married in the other universe.	198
199	ELISE Oh, my. To Derek?	199
200	BETH No, no. To Amanda.	200
201	ANDREW Our Amanda?	201
202	BETH Yes. They'd been married for about three years. Odessa learned that she was pregnant while we were there they'd been trying to start a family of their own.	202
203	ANDREW I can see how that could be awkward. But why is it still awkward?	203

BETH sighs.

204	BETH	204
204	I haven't pressed either of them on it, but Odessa and Amanda seem to have a complicated friendship. And it was only made more complicated when this portal business started.	204
205	ELISE Complicated in what way?	205
206	I'm not blind. It's clear that there's a level of mutual attraction between them. And that's fine, it's normal. Let's be honest, they're both perfect girlfriend material.	206
207	ANDREW As you well know.	207
		207
BETH chuci		
208	Indeed. And it's like you said, if our situations had been different, perhaps we'd all have ended up in a different "configuration," as it were. But we didn't. Odessa and I hare happy together, and so are Amanda and Cindy.	208
209	ANDREW None of that sounds complicated.	209
210	No. But since we got back, Odessa has been incredibly awkward about Amanda. She came to visit us this morning and almost immediately left the room to lie down. And she didn't want to talk about it, which isn't like her. She immediately changed the subject, and she knows exactly how to distract me.	210
	ANDREW	
211	I know you want to help. But in this case, it may be best to simply be there for her and allow her the space to process this in her own time.	211

212	ELISE And it also sounds as though Odessa and Amanda need to have a conversation as well.	212
213	I hope Odessa comes to the same conclusion. Amanda's good at hiding her emotions, but she was clearly upset by the way Odessa reacted to her. She was hurt. And I don't like to see her hurt.	213
214	ELISE It must be difficult to see two people you love going through this much tumult.	214
215	BETH Very. I just wish I could do something to help.	215
216	ELISE You are. Just by being there.	216
217	ANDREW Was there anything else that you wanted to talk to us about? Regarding the other universe?	217
BETH sigh	s and gathers herself.	
218	BETH Has Dr. Hardy or Dr. Flagler made any headway finding out what's been going on with you? Health-wise?	218
219	ANDREW  No, nothing yet. Tony keeps lamenting that the equipment he has available is rudimentary in terms of diagnostics. Even the medical bays we have in our houses are more of a trauma ward than a diagnostic tool.	219
220	BETH I talked a lot with that universe's version of you, dad, and I was able to steer the conversation to any health issues he may have experienced recently.	220

### ELISE

	ELISE	
221	(hopeful but concerned) And?	221
	BETH sighs, welling up.	
	ВЕТН	
222	A few years ago, he was diagnosed with with cancer. Lymphoma. They caught it early, and the treatment was successful. He was totally cancer-free.	222
	ELISE	
223	Andrew	223
	BETH	
224	It doesn't necessarily mean anything. But it might. I hope it doesn't.	224
	ANDREW	
225	(shaken) I I see. I'll tell Tony and Dr. Hardy right away, of course. Best to know, either way.	225
	BETH	
226	Would it be alright if I stayed here with you for the rest of the afternoon? Odessa said she'd just be resting at home	226
	ANDREW	
227	I would like nothing more, my dear. You can tell us all about your adventures. I can't wait to hear.	227
	BETH	
228	Can you tell me some stories from	228
	before the war? There must be some you hadn't told me yet.	220
		220
229	you hadn't told me yet.	229
229	you hadn't told me yet.  ANDREW  I think I'll be able to think of	
	you hadn't told me yet.  ANDREW I think I'll be able to think of something.  BETH And mum can you tell me about	229

232	BETH Brilliant. You go first. I want to hear everything.	232
	MUSICAL TRANSITION	
	INT. THE SPIDER'S WEB, DAY	
	AMANDA and BONES are getting ready for the evening's customers. There is a knock on the door.	
233	AMANDA Expecting anyone?	233
234	BONES  Nope. No deliveries scheduled for today. Let me see who it is. I'll get rid of 'em if I have to.	234
235	AMANDA Thanks Panes	235
233	Thanks, Bones.	233
	BONES opens the door.	
236	BONES Oh, hey, Odessa! Didn't expect to see you today! I guess that means you're feeling okay.	236
237	ODESSA I am, Bones, thank you. Is Amanda here?	237
238	BONES She's right over there.	238
	ODESSA enters.	
239	ODESSA (sheepishly) Um, hi.	239
240	AMANDA Bones, can we have the room, please?	240
241	BONES Sure thing, boss. I have some stuff to take care of in the basement. Just yell if you need me.	241
242	AMANDA Thanks.	242

BONES leaves.

	ODESSA	
243	I um I'm sorry. About earlier.	243
244	AMANDA What's going on with you? I have never seen you like that. It's like you saw a ghost. A me-shaped ghost.	244
245	ODESSA I didn't know you were coming over, and I wasn't quite ready to see you yet.	245
	AMANDA	
246	Not ready to see me yet? You're worrying me. What happened? Did I do something? Did I hurt you somehow? I'm sorry, just tell me what it was and I'll fix it.	246
	ODESSA sighs.	
247	ODESSA We need to talk.	247
248	AMANDA Are are you breaking up with me? I mean, we're not "together" but the only times I've said that were when I was getting ready to dump somebody.	248
	ODESSA chuckles.	
	AMANDA (CONT'D)	
249	Well, I can still make you laugh, at least. (beat)	249
250	So, let's talk. Want a drink?	250
251	ODESSA  No, but thank you. I'm waiting on some lab tests and I don't want to drink any alcohol until I know the results.	251
	AMANDA	
252	<pre>Is everything okay? Is that what this is about? Worried about those tests?</pre>	252

253	ODESSA No. Well, I guess it is, in a way.	253
254	AMANDA (concerned) Are you sick?	254
255	ODESSA It's nothing like that. Physically, I'm fine.	255
256	AMANDA  Damn right you are.  (beat)	256
257	Sorry. Force of habit.	257
258	ODESSA We need to talk about this "thing" between us.	258
259	AMANDA I thought we had an understanding about the, um "thing."	259
260	ODESSA We did. We do. But some things happened while Beth and I were away that you need to know about, because I can't stop thinking about them. That's why I reacted the way you did when you visited us.	260
261	AMANDA I'm not gonna lie, that hurt. Beth talked me down a little, but still. I didn't know what I did.	261
262	ODESSA I'm sorry. I was just overwhelmed, and I had to get away. And you didn't do anything.	262
263	That's what Beth said, too. She was hinting around at something, but I couldn't pin her down on any details. She said that me meeting the other version of you could create "complications," and that might be why Rahmani kept those two at Atlas and wouldn't let anyone near them except for Devon and your old buddy the Scribe.	263

		27.
264	ODESSA That was a good call.	264
265	AMANDA Jesus, Odessa, just tell me what's going on.	265
266	ODESSA We were married.	266
AMANDA la	ughs.	
267	AMANDA  For a second there I thought you meant we were married to each other.	267
268	(beat) Wait. You did mean that? There was an actual "us," with wedding rings and everything?	268
269	ODESSA Yeah. I think Beth almost passed out when she heard the name "Amanda Valdez."	269
270	AMANDA I would have.	270
271	ODESSA But then she kissed me.	271
272	AMANDA Okay, nothing weird about that, she didn't know you weren't her Odessa and married people kiss all the time.	272
273	ODESSA And	273
274	AMANDA And what?	274
275	ODESSA And I kissed her back.	275
276	AMANDA You what?! With Beth standing right there?	276

277	ODESSA You remember what we kept experiencing every time we got close to a portal?	277
278	AMANDA I'll never forget it. It wasn't just physical attraction anymore. Don't get me wrong, that was still there, but it was more than that.	278
279	ODESSA Come on, Amanda, it's just us. Say it.	279
280	AMANDA I was in love with you, okay? Like, shout-it-from-the-mountaintops in love. It felt real, even though I knew it wasn't.	280
281	ODESSA That's what I felt, too. There wasn't anything I wanted more than you.	281
282	AMANDA You know what the most messed up part was? I wanted it to be real. I liked feeling that way. It scared me, and I don't scare easy.	282
283	ODESSA  I felt the same way, including the "scared" part. I think that helped me recognize what was going on. I pulled myself back to reality - my reality - pretty quickly after the kiss. But in that moment, with her? I was that Odessa. It terrified me. I wondered if I was starting to lose myself, and if she was going through the same thing here.	283
284	AMANDA Did you talk to Beth about any of this?	284
285	ODESSA Some of it. But there were things I had to talk with you about first. With you you, not Mrs. Valdez.	285

	AMANDA	
286	Things? Plural? Do I even want to know what else happened? (beat)	286
287	Who am I kidding? Of course I do. Hit me.	287
288	ODESSA Uh, a lot of things happened, but one of them kind of stands out. I was pregnant.	288
289	AMANDA We we were going to be parents? I mean, they were going to be parents? This is so confusing to talk about	289
290	ODESSA  I felt terrible that she couldn't even be there when she got the call she was trapped in another universe, surrounded by strangers when that phone rang. At least I had Beth with me. She was alone.	290
	AMANDA	
291	<pre>(softly, comforting) Is this what the lab tests are about?</pre>	291
292	ODESSA  Yes. I know it's crazy, she's back in her body and I'm back in mine, but we don't know anything about how these portals work. Maybe there's a chance that I'm pregnant, you know? And maybe this is my only chance.	292
	AMANDA	
293	Hey, hey, don't talk like that.	293
294	ODESSA I'm sorry.	294
295	AMANDA Don't be. No matter what the tests say, you and Beth will navigate what comes next together. She does know about this, right?	295

	ODESSA	
296	Yeah. She and Dr. Hardy are the	296
	only other people who know.	
	AMANDA	
297	The important thing is that she's	297
	back where she belongs and so are	
	you. You're both with the people you're meant to be with again.	
	you is means to be with again.	
	ODESSA	
298	Yeah. I just hope things aren't as	298
	messy for her as they are for us.	
	AMANDA sighs.	
	-	
299	AMANDA	299
299	-	299
299	AMANDA I guess the "thing" was going to come to a head eventually.	299
	AMANDA I guess the "thing" was going to come to a head eventually.  ODESSA	
299	AMANDA I guess the "thing" was going to come to a head eventually.	299 300
	AMANDA I guess the "thing" was going to come to a head eventually.  ODESSA We should have talked about it	
	AMANDA I guess the "thing" was going to come to a head eventually.  ODESSA We should have talked about it	

# END OF ACT TWO

# ACT THREE

# INT. FORT ATLAS, DAY

SCRIBE NAVIA is working in a lab, clacking away at a keyboard.

CINDY enters.

303	CINDY Excuse me, Scribe Navia?	303
304	NAVIA Lieutenant Connors! What can I do for you?	304
305	CINDY I'm off-duty. Please call me Cindy. We're both part of the Seven, so we should probably be on a first-name basis anyway.	305
NAVIA chu	ckles.	
306	NAVIA You're probably right. No more "Scriba Navia," then, call me Jess.	306
307	CINDY Okay, Jess. I was looking for Odessa. Is she around?	307
308	NAVIA No. Paladin Rahmani sent her home to rest. It sounds like they had quite an experience.	308
309	CINDY Yeah. Rahmani was pretty tight- lipped about it, too. Wouldn't let any of us near Beth and Odessa. Amanda was ready to strangle her. And not in the fun way.	309
310	NAVIA How is Amanda?	310
311	CINDY She's great! She was really worried about Beth and Odessa, and now that they're back it's a big weight off her shoulders. I've been doing my best to keep her distracted.	311

312	NAVIA I'm sure she didn't mind.	312
	CINDY chuckles.	
313	CINDY  No. But it's been nice to spend more time with her. I had a lot of liberty saved up that I couldn't use because we were so busy. But it's been surprisingly quiet around the Bunker lately, so I'm finally able to tear myself away.	313
314	NAVIA That's good. It's important to have a balance.	314
315	CINDY  I've been so invested in proving myself to Valeria and everybody else there proving that I belong that it's been hard to find that balance. I want to be more than my job, even though I understand how important that job is.	315
316	NAVIA That's a feeling I know well. I've been trying to branch out a little. Find some hobbies, something to pass the time that isn't strictly Scribe work.	316
317	CINDY Yes! I just started painting. I'm not very good, but Amanda's really been encouraging me.	317
318	NAVIA You'll have to show me some of your paintings!	318
	CINDY chuckles.	
319	CINDY  Maybe someday. The hardest part is finding paint. Well, the right kind of paint.	319
320	NAVIA I might be able to help you with that. (MORE)	320

	NAVIA (CONT'D)  It would be fun to see if I can whip some up for you. It's still	
	science-y, but not Scribe work, so it counts.	
321	CINDY That would be great! I promise, you'll be the second person I show anything I paint using what you come up with.	321
322	NAVIA That's a great incentive! I'll keep you posted.	322
202	CINDY	202
323	Deal. (beat)	323
324	So what else has been going on? Any movement with the portal stuff? Like, why we're special?	324
325	NAVIA Nothing concrete. But Beth mentioned something interesting when they got back to Atlas.	325
326	CINDY What is it?	326
327	NAVIA They found a portal arch like the one in Morgantown under Amanda's restaurant.	327
200	CINDY	200
328	Okay, and?	328
329	NAVIA The restaurant was in Washington, DC. Hundreds of miles away from here. Now, it could just be a wild coincidence that two transdimensional hotspots happen to sit in Amanda's basement in two different universes	329
330	CINDY But it's far more likely that it's something specific to Amanda.	330

331	NAVIA Yes. And whatever it is, it's so strong that it's present no matter what universe's Amanda we're talking about.	331
332	<b>CINDY</b> I hope she's not in any kind of danger	332
333	NAVIA  It's a very small sample size, and there could be any number of plausible explanations.	333
334	CINDY Including the possibility that she's the key to everything somehow.	334
335	<pre>(beat) Wait. Isn't "the Key" one of the archetypes the Emerald Pike identified?</pre>	335
336	NAVIA Yes! I like where you're going with this. If she's the Key, that can narrow down who the rest of us are.	336
337	CINDY  And what we have to do to stop this invasion before it happens.	337
	RAHMANI enters.	
338	RAHMANI Scribe Navia, I oh, hello, Lieutenant. What brings you here?	338
339	CINDY I was looking for Odessa. I had a few things I needed her expertise on, but Jess and I were just discussing something you may want to hear.	339
340	RAHMANI	340
340	I'm listening.	340

	NAVIA	
341	Leaving the infrastructure at Flagrante Bello aside, we know about one specific portal location in our universe and another in the one Beth and Odessa visited.	341
342	RAHMANI Right. Under the Spider's Web and under oh. I think I understand. Amanda is somehow tied to these portals? Or drawn to them?	342
343	NAVIA We hadn't really gotten as far as specifics, but yes. It could be that she chose the locations for her businesses in both universes because there were weak points in the barrier between dimensions there. She wouldn't have had any idea she was doing it, either.	343
344	CINDY You don't think she's causing these "weak spots," do you?	344
345	NAVIA I hadn't considered that, but we can't ignore it as a possibility.	345
346	CINDY Something just occurred to me. Could it be that all the problems we've been seeing with the portals are because Vault-Tec didn't know that they had to find a weak spot?	346
347	NAVIA Or that they know but didn't know how. Either way, though, it fits. That could be why the portals were always unstable and why Beth and Odessa swapped places with their counterparts in the way they did. Even Devon seemed surprised by that, and he's the expert.	347
348	RAHMANI While we're on the subject, there's something else that's been nagging at me.	348

349	NAVIA What is it?	349
350	RAHMANI In the other universe, Beth and Odessa never met. Beth and her family lived in England.	350
351	CINDY Right	351
352	RAHMANI Yet at some point not long before the swap happened, the wheels were put in motion not only for them to come to the United States, but to work directly with Odessa on a project directly involving these portals.	352
353	(beat) Now, I have no doubt that Beth would've sought Odessa out after the swap no matter what, but well, it's awfully convenient that she didn't have to.	353
354	NAVIA I see what you're saying. That's a little too convenient.	354
355	RAHMANI Precisely. Many of the same people being drawn together at the same time	355
356	CINDY  But not all of the same people. The only members of our Seven that were present in that universe were Beth, Odessa, and Amanda. The three of us weren't there, and neither was Derek.	356
357	RAHMANI That doesn't mean that they weren't on their way somehow, too. It's entirely possible that this all happened just as everyone was coming together there we might have just been a little bit ahead of schedule.	357

358	NAVIA  Odessa's description of the project supports that hypothesis as well.  They don't seem to have gotten quite as far as Vault-Tec did.	358
359	RAHMANI Scribe Navia, please discuss this with Knight Carlson. He's become our expert in the more philosophical aspects of this operation. Lieutenant, would you be willing to join that conversation?	359
360	CINDY Of course.	360
361	RAHMANI  And please keep Amanda updated.  We'll need her to be up to speed; as we've learned, things happen very quickly and on very short notice. We need everyone to be ready for that.	361
362	CINDY I will.	362
	DAHMANT	
363	RAHMANI I'm going to talk to Derek. If you need anything, that's where I'll be.	363
364	NAVIA Yes, ma'am.	364
	TRANSITION	
INT. FORT ATLAS, RAHMANI'S OFFICE, DAY		
RAHMANI	is at her desk. DEREK knocks at the door.	
365	DEREK You wanted to see me, Leila?	365
366	RAHMANI Yes. Please come in. Have Devon and Scribe Hargrove made any progress?	366
367	DEREK I just talked to Dave. He's like a dog with a bone. (MORE)	367

## DEREK (CONT'D)

The telemetry itself is kind of opaque, but between his experience with Vault-Tec systems and Devon's experience with portals they'll get it figured out.

	-	
368	RAHMANI Good.	368
369	DEREK Have you talked to Odessa?	369
370	RAHMANI Briefly. I want to give her time to rest, but I also want to make sure she's okay. She seemed I don't know. She seemed to be impacted by the experience on an emotional level.	370
371	DEREK Did she tell you why?	371
372	RAHMANI Derek	372
373	DEREK I'm asking as her friend and colleague. Nothing more.	373
374	RAHMANI No, she didn't, and I didn't pry. It was clear that she needed to rest and recover from the moment they reappeared. She and Beth both looked exhausted. But when we got back to Atlas, it became clear that resting and recovering with Beth was every bit as important, if not moreso.	374
375	DEREK I understand.	375
376	RAHMANI Do you?	376
377	DEREK What's that supposed to mean?	377
378	RAHMANI  Derek, I've known you for a very long time.  (MORE)	378

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### RAHMANI (CONT'D)

I know you still love her, and I suspect that you're still holding out hope that she's going to "come to her senses" and go back to Lost Hills with you. You've never given up when something means as much to you as she does.

#### DEREK

I can't argue any of that. 379

#### RAHMANI

There comes a point, though, when you need to let go. For her sake and for yours. You may think that you're operating completely above board here, but you have to recognize that what you're doing is causing friction between her and Beth.

#### **DEREK**

Maybe that should tell her something. If Beth is that insecure about how Odessa supposedly feels about her...

### RAHMANI

Maybe it should tell you something.
You're being selfish and
manipulative, and that does not
suit you.

#### DEREK

383 That's not fair.

380

384

#### RAHMANI

Isn't it? Fair or not, it's true. You're a Paladin now, and Paladins have to be better than that. She has been incredibly patient with you. So has Beth, for that matter. Yet you're so obsessed with the idea of winning her back that you don't give a damn about the impact that's having on her.

### DEREK

I can't believe you're talking to me like this.

#### RAHMANI

386 Believe it.

386

385

	DEDEK	
387	DEREK What do you expect me to do? Give up?	387
	RAHMANI	
388	"Give up?" Do you even hear yourself?	388
389	(gathering herself) You claim to be her friend. I expect you to start acting like it. If you can't do that, then maybe you should ask yourself what's really driving this.	389
	DEREK	
390	I'm trying to correct a mistake.	390
391	RAHMANI  By making a bigger one? Look, I haven't been privy to your conversations, but I know Odessa well enough to know that if there were any hope to be held out for, she would've told you. If she was conflicted, or suddenly unsure, you'd know that.	391
392	(beat) But my suspicion is that she didn't do that.	392
DEREK sig	hs.	
393	DEREK No. She didn't. She told me that she loves Beth and wants to spend the rest of her life with her.	393
394	RAHMANI So you have your answer.	394
395	DEREK We were supposed to spend our lives together.	395
396	RAHMANI I know. But things change. People change. She's not the same person she was when she left. And you're not the same person either. This matter aside, you've shown me a lot in the short time you've been here. You've matured. You're growing into the leader I always knew you could be.  (MORE)	396

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### RAHMANI (CONT'D)

Your feelings about Odessa seem to be the one area where you haven't evolved. Yet. But I think you need to if you're ever going to fully grow into the person; that leader. You need to move on. For your sake, for hers, and for the Brotherhood's.

#### DEREK

I don't know how. I spent years thinking about how I was going to make it up to her, and how she'd rush back into my arms when I finally saw her again. But then she didn't.

#### RAHMANI

It took her a long time to move on. I was concerned about her, frankly. But then she met Beth. I've never seen two people more perfect for each other. I'm sorry, but that includes you and Odessa. Beth is her person. And if you love her, if you're truly her friend and not just pretending to be so you can get her back, you'll both recognize and respect that.

#### DEREK sighs.

398

#### DEREK

You're right. Of course you're right.

#### RAHMANI

I know this is hard. And I know it 400 hurts. Maybe even more than when she broke things off. But the hurt will subside, as long as you let it.

### DEREK

I'll take your word for it. And
I'll try. I just want her to be
happy, and I just need to accept
that doesn't involve us being
together.

#### RAHMANI

I'm always here if you need to talk 402 Or even if you just want to.

403	DEREK Thanks, Leila. I'm going to go to my quarters. I've got a lot to think about. If anything happens	403
404	RAHMANI Don't worry, I'll let you know immediately.	404
	DEREK leaves.	
	RAHMANI sighs heavily.	
	MERRIWEATHER bursts in.	
405	MERRIWEATHER Paladin! I just got a message from Scribe Hargrove. They're under attack.	405
406	RAHMANI Under attack? By whom?	406
407	MERRIWEATHER  It's not a who. It's a what. He has it locked in the console room, but whatever it is, it's big and sounds pretty upset.	407
408	RAHMANI "Whatever it is?" So it's not one of the usual suspects?	408
409	MERRIWEATHER No. Hargrove said he's never seen anything like it.	409
410	RAHMANI  He hasn't seen any of the cryptids that are indigenous to Appalachia. It could be one of them.	410
411	MERRIWEATHER I don't think so. He said the portal arch activated on its own and whatever it was came through.	411
412	RAHMANI Oh, no. It could be the Untainted. We're not ready for an invasion. (beat)	412
413	Gather everyone you can. All hands on deck.  (MORE)	413

### RAHMANI (CONT'D)

Lieutenant Connors should still be here, make sure you get her and Scribe Navia. Paladin Hewitt, too - he should be in his quarters. I'll radio Beth, Odessa, and Amanda. If this is the Untainted, I get the feeling we'll need all seven of us there. Meet me in the courtyard with anybody you can find.

### **MERRIWEATHER**

414 Yes, ma'am. 414

MERRIWEATHER and RAHMANI rush out of the room.