

Once Upon A WASTELAND

Season Three: "Beyond the Veil"

Episode 1
"Beyond Our Fate"

by

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"BEYOND OUR FATE"

FADE IN:

INT. BETH AND ODESSA'S HOME - DAY

ODESSA is puttering around in the living area.

BETH enters from the bedroom.

ODESSA

(brightly)

1 Good morning. 1

BETH

(slightly groggy)

2 Good morning. Have you been up 2
long? What time is it?

ODESSA

3 It's only nine. I thought you'd 3
sleep in. You got in pretty late.

BETH

4 It was tempting. But when I rolled 4
over and you weren't there...

ODESSA

5 I wasn't sure if I could be trusted 5
to actually let you sleep, so I
thought it would be best to come
out here and start to look through
Casey's notes for the wedding.

BETH

6 Did she drop off more while I was 6
gone? In hindsight, perhaps we
should've given her a bit more
guidance than "have fun."

ODESSA laughs.

ODESSA

7 It's been an... eye-opening 7
experience.

BETH

8 I'm sorry I haven't been around to 8
help. If nothing else I might've
been able to rein her in a bit.

9 **ODESSA** 9
It's okay. I'll admit, I was a
little hesitant about having a big,
fancy wedding at first.

10 **BETH** 10
But now?

11 **ODESSA** 11
All I really care about is the
"getting married" part. The rest is
just set dressing.

12 **BETH** 12
Aww...

ODESSA chuckles.

13 **ODESSA** 13
I know, I know, it sounds corny,
but it's true.

(beat)

14 14
Back at Lost Hills, a big wedding
was just another *expectation* piled
on top of all the others. Yet
another thing that I felt powerless
to do anything about.

(beat)

15 15
But this is different. Big or
small, it's going to be *our* day.
Plus, Casey has done a *very* good
job of selling me on the idea of
pulling out all the stops.

BETH chuckles.

16 **BETH** 16
She can be *very* persuasive.

17 **ODESSA** 17
I can only think of one other
person who's better at talking me
into things.

18 **BETH** 18
Anyone I know?

19 **ODESSA** 19
It's the person who asked me to the
Brotherhood ball a couple of years
ago, right before Casey did.

20 **BETH** 20
I see. That must've been a tough
decision.

ODESSA
 (playfully)
21 Oh, it was. 21
 (beat)
22 But that night, I danced with her 22
and... well, I was pretty sure that
I'd made the right choice before
that, but that sealed it.

BETH
23 Anything else memorable about that 23
night?

ODESSA
24 Sharing "dessert" was something I'm 24
not going to forget...

BETH
25 That sounds nice. 25

ODESSA
26 That's one word for it. But yes, it 26
was. Very "nice," in fact.

BETH
27 Do you remember that first time we 27
met?

ODESSA
28 How could I forget *that*? 28

BETH
29 I felt so *awkward*. I had everything 29
30 planned out in my head and the 30
second I saw you I forgot how to...
behave like a human.

ODESSA
31 You were adorable. Offering to 31
"debrief" me may have been a bit
much, but I let it slide.

BETH
32 Ugh. I could practically see the 32
words escaping my mouth but I
couldn't pull them back in. Amanda
still brings it up from time to
time, just to see how red my face
will get.

71 **BETH** 71
I'm sure you could've put it back
together perfectly. Hell, it'd
probably run better after you got
done with it.
 (beat)

72 **BETH** 72
But I never felt unsafe. And there
are so many vertibots flying around
that we blended right in.

73 **ODESSA** 73
Jess should have the telemetry
downloaded by now. We're going to
go through it while you're gone.
 (beat)

74 **BETH** 74
Um...

75 **BETH** 75
What is it?

76 **ODESSA** 76
Do you know how long you'll be gone
this time?

77 **BETH** 77
It should only be a few days. I was
finally able to arrange a meeting
with the Syndicate. Assuming they
decide to bring me in, I should be
able to get all the intel we'll
need to suss out what they're up
to. I'll have to vamp a bit if they
ask for a demonstration of the
technology we made up, but that
shouldn't present a problem.

78 **ODESSA** 78
Be careful.

79 **BETH** 79
I will. They're far enough away
that they don't know me, and my
identity's been backstopped very
effectively from what I can tell.
Craig and Amanda have done a great
job with that.

80 **ODESSA** 80
Craig is enjoying it. He keeps
calling it a "caper," which is
adorable.

BETH laughs.

BETH chuckles.

93 **BETH** 93
 Something like that. I was so
 worried that I'd end up breaking
 your heart, too. And you'd already
 had your heart broken once.

94 **ODESSA** 94
 Heartbreak is always a possibility
 when you love someone. You just
 have to decide if that risk is
 worth it.

95 **BETH**
 (playfully)
 What are my chances looking like? 95

96 **ODESSA** 96
 Well, if you look at our ring
 fingers I think you'll have a
 pretty good idea of the answer to
 that question.

BETH and ODESSA kiss.

97 **BETH** 97
 I love you.

98 **ODESSA** 98
 I love you too.

99 **BETH** 99
 Speaking of ring fingers, were you
 able to track the beacon in my ring
 while I was away?

100 **ODESSA** 100
 The range was better than expected,
 but I lost you when you were about
 150 miles out.

101 **BETH** 101
 That's still impressive, though!

102 **ODESSA** 102
 I'll need to borrow it for a few
 days when you get back. I think I
 can squeeze a few more miles out of
 it.

103 **BETH** 103
 We can do all the testing you'd
 like as soon as I return. But...

104 **ODESSA**
What is it? 104

105 **BETH**
I know it's daft, but... I don't
like taking it off. Something about
being able to look down at my hand,
no matter where I am, and know that
I'm about to marry the most amazing
woman in the world... 105

106 **ODESSA**
I promise, I'll have it right back
on your finger in no time. And...
it won't be long until we're adding
another ring, too. 106

107 **BETH**
I can't wait. "Elizabeth Valdez-
Kirby" has such a lovely ring to
it. 107

(beat)
108 No pun intended. 108

ODESSA laughs.

109 **ODESSA**
I think "Odessa Valdez-Kirby"
sounds nice as well. 109

(beat)
110 I don't have to have you back at
Fort Atlas for a few hours. Would
you like breakfast, or... should we
jump straight to dessert? 110

MUSICAL TRANSITION

INT. THE SPIDER'S WEB, AFTERNOON

*BONES is at the bar, cleaning glasses. There are a few people
there, but it's a quiet group.*

AMANDA enters from outside.

111 **BONES**
Hey, boss. 111

AMANDA
(slightly weary)
112 Hey, Bones. 112

BONES
113 Everything okay? How'd it go at
Fort Atlas? 113

AMANDA

114 It went fine. Fine-ish, I guess. 114
Casey's a sweetheart, but those
bridesmaid's dresses... they're
really nice, don't get me wrong,
but getting into them is more of an
ordeal than I was expecting. I
think I pulled a shoulder muscle...
The sacrifices I make for those
two, I swear...

BONES laughs.

BONES

115 You love it. 115

AMANDA

116 I do. Besides, I can just take out 116
my frustrations planning the
bachelorette party.

BONES

117 I think I'm leaving town that 117
night.

AMANDA

118 Good call. I'm only getting one 118
crack at this and I'm going to make
it count. Things are gonna get
weird.

BONES laughs.

BONES

119 I didn't think you could make it 119
more terrifying, but good job.

AMANDA

120 Hopefully not "magic portal to 120
alternate universes" weird, but I
think we're safe there, at least.

BONES

121 I hope so. That's the kind of 121
experience that makes a good story,
but I don't want to go through it
again.

AMANDA

122 Me either. Things were already a 122
little... um... "tense" between me
and Odessa and finding out we were
freaking *married* in another
universe did *not* help.

123 **BONES** 123
I thought you two talked that
through.

AMANDA sighs.

124 **AMANDA** 124
We did, right after they got back.
And it helped, it really did, but I
feel like she was holding back. I
know the pregnancy thing *really*
bothered her, a lot more than she
let on.

(beat)

125 I know that she and Beth have 125
discussed it. That's one
conversation I'm glad I wasn't a
fly on the wall for. Wonder if she
told *her* what happened between her
and the other me that night...

126 **BONES** 126
I'm going to suggest something and
even I don't know if it's a good
idea.

127 **AMANDA** 127
I'm ready to consider pretty much
anything at this point.

128 **BONES** 128
Maybe you should sit down with both
of them. This doesn't just affect
you and Odessa, it affects Beth,
too.

AMANDA sighs.

129 **AMANDA** 129
Maybe that's what I'll have to do.
I have some time to think about it.

130 **BONES** 130
Don't think too long. Things could
get... uncomfortable pretty quickly
at the bachelorette party if things
are still lingering out there.

131 **AMANDA** 131
(frustrated)
I wish my usual method for getting
this kind of thing out of my system
would work this time. But I think
it'd just make things worse.

BONES laughs.

132 **BONES** I'm sure you'll figure something out. I worry about you, boss. You and Odessa are good friends and I'd hate to see anything get in the way of that. 132

133 **AMANDA** Yep. And she and Beth are *perfect* together. Like, annoyingly perfect. 133

BONES laughs.

134 **BONES** I could say the same thing about you and Cindy. Well, without the "annoying" part, of course. 134

AMANDA chuckles.

135 **AMANDA** Of course. 135

The door opens. ODESSA enters and closes the door behind her.

136 **AMANDA (CONT'D)** Hey, you! We were just talking about you! 136

137 **ODESSA** Nothing bad, right? My ears weren't burning or anything... 137

138 **AMANDA** Absolutely. 138

139 **ODESSA** Bones, is she telling the truth? 139

140 **BONES** Yes she is. If I ever heard her say anything negative about you I think I'd pass out. 140

141 **AMANDA** Is Beth back on the road? Er, in the air, I guess? 141

ODESSA sighs.

142 **ODESSA** Yeah. 142

143 **AMANDA** And you miss her already? 143

144 **ODESSA** Yeah. I usually throw myself into work to distract myself, but I thought it would be nice to be around friendly faces for a little while before I did that. 144

145 **AMANDA** Well you came to the right place. Who's got a friendlier face than Bones here? 145

BONES laughs.

146 **BONES** I've heard a lot of words used to describe my face over the years, but I think I like "friendly" the best. 146

147 **AMANDA** Getting soft in your old age? 147

148 **BONES** Ask the two guys I had to throw out last night. 148

AMANDA laughs.

149 **AMANDA** Fair enough. Sure you don't want to work security for Beth and Odessa's party? 149

150 **BONES** I have never been more sure of anything in my life. 150

151 **ODESSA** Are you even going to give me a *hint* of what you have planned? 151

152 **AMANDA** Absolutely not. It's going to be surprise after surprise. Play your cards right and I'll even open that door you were asking about when we found the portal last year. 152

179 **AMANDA** 179
But I went through kind of the same
thing with Cindy. It's a work in
progress, but we're managing.

180 **ODESSA** 180
I went through it with Derek, but
this is different. I missed him,
but... not like I miss her. And he
usually had a small army with her,
she's on her own.

181 **AMANDA** 181
I understand. Just remember that
it's okay to miss her, and it's
okay to worry about her. Allow
yourself to feel things. And talk
to her about it. That's the most
important part.

182 **ODESSA** 182
That's one thing we've gotten a lot
better about. At first, it could be
hard to get her to open up about
certain things. It was like she was
afraid she'd drive me away if she
wanted to have a conversation that
might be difficult.

183 (beat) 183
It was frustrating.

184 **AMANDA** 184
Yeah. She's always had abandonment
issues. She had them before me,
but... I made them worse, I think.

185 (beat) 185
Sorry.

186 **ODESSA** 186
Everyone's a lesson.

187 **AMANDA** 187
And maybe without those lessons we
never would've found the people we
did.

188 **ODESSA** 188
I try to avoid "what-ifs," but
that's one I can't help thinking
about. But in a good way.

189 (beat) 189
Would there be a "me and Beth"
without a "me and Derek" or a "you
and Beth?" Without those lessons?

190 **AMANDA** I have a feeling you two would've found each other no matter what. 190

191 **ODESSA** I have the same feeling. And we *did* find each other, and that's all that really matters. 191

192 **AMANDA** That's the spirit. 192

ODESSA laughs.

193 **ODESSA** Thanks. 193

(beat)
194 How did the fitting go? The dresses Casey picked are beautiful. 194

195 **AMANDA** Uh, it went fine. 195

196 **ODESSA** Just "fine?" 196

197 **AMANDA** I've been in straitjackets that were easier to get in and out of. 197

ODESSA laughs.

198 **ODESSA** Sorry. I had no idea. 198

199 **AMANDA** It's okay, babe. Gotta look pretty if I'm going to be standing up there next to you two. It's worth a little shoulder pain. Did you two pick your dresses yet? 199

200 **ODESSA** We didn't. Casey dropped off some sketches but we... um... got distracted and didn't get a chance to look at them. 200

201 **AMANDA** That's what I like to hear. 201

202 **ODESSA** I'm glad we can still distract each other like that. 202

AMANDA

215 It's not silly. He was taking you 215
for granted.

ODESSA

216 He was always so attentive. He'd 216
get me gifts, take me out, he was
never shy about telling me he loved
me. None of *that* changed.

(beat)

217 I'm not shallow, and I'm not vain. 217
So what if he didn't look at me the
way he used to?

(beat)

218 It shouldn't have bothered me at 218
all, but it hurt.

(beat)

219 It wasn't his fault. I think he 219
appreciated me in his own way. That
just turned out not to be the way I
needed.

AMANDA

220 Well, if it makes you feel any 220
better I'll never stop checking you
out.

ODESSA laughs.

ODESSA

221 Thanks. Sorry for not changing into 221
a skirt before I came over, then.

AMANDA laughs.

AMANDA

222 I'll let it slide this time. Just 222
make sure you wear one to the
bachelorette party.

ODESSA laughs.

ODESSA

223 Deal. 223

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. BACK ROOM**

DMITRI Orlov and ELENA Sorokin are sitting at a table.

224 **DMITRI** He always makes us wait. I'm tired of it. 224

225 **ELENA** I know. But beyond that *he* knows. Just don't let on that it's getting to you; then he'll know it worked. 225

DMITRI sighs irritatedly.

226 **DMITRI** I'm also tired of playing these little games. This isn't the old world. The war presented our best opportunity to do things differently. To do things *right*. But people like him still have enough power to keep us stuck in the past, and they are *not* shy about exercising that power. It's maddening. 226

227 **ELENA** Patience, Mitya. 227

228 **DMITRI** You're young. It's easier for you to be patient. 228

ELENA chuckles.

229 **ELENA** Perhaps, *starik*, perhaps. 229

230 **DMITRI** He's trying to make me look bad in front of the new girl. 230

231 **ELENA** What profit would there be in that? If this woman's reputation is at all accurate she won't put up with needless infighting. 231

232 **DMITRI** And if it isn't? 232

233 **ELENA**
Then all we will have wasted is 233
time.

(beat)
234 But my opinion remains that we need 234
her.

235 **DMITRI**
As does mine. My concern is that 235
Victor will place more value on his
ability to hold her under his thumb
than on her value to this
operation.

ELENA laughs.

236 **ELENA**
If, again, her reputation is at all 236
accurate, he will find that to be a
more difficult task than bringing
all of Appalachia under his
control.

237 **DMITRI**
I hope we can trust her. 237

238 **ELENA**
"Trust" is a malleable concept in 238
these matters. If everyone feels
that their needs are being met,
then things will proceed as we need
them to. Understanding those needs
is the key.

239 **DMITRI**
Apparently Victor needs to make 239
others feel small.

ELENA chuckles.

240 **ELENA**
I believe he's made that quite 240
clear.

(beat)
241 But this arrangement has been 241
mutually beneficial so far, has it
not?

242 **DMITRI**
It has. But this is a much bigger 242
play than anything I thought he'd
ever try to arrange.

243 **ELENA** 243
 It *is* somewhat out of character for
 him. As is bringing in an outsider.
 He's known you for what, thirty
 years?

244 **DMITRI** 244
 Since he was a teenager. Should
 have put him in the ground then.

245 **ELENA** 245
 Now now...

246 **DMITRI** 246
 Anthony put business above
 everything else.

247 **ELENA** 247
 Victor is not his father.

248 **DMITRI** 248
 Clearly. I thought he'd learn.
 Perhaps if Anthony had survived...
 (beat, sigh)
 249 But what's done is done. 249

250 **ELENA** 250
 And we must look forward, not back.
 This is a unique opportunity to do
 so. Let's not allow petty personal
 squabbles to get in the way of
 that. Be like Anthony, not like
 Victor.

251 **DMITRI** 251
 You always know what to say.

ELENA chuckles.

252 **ELENA** 252
 We all have our talents.

The door opens. VICTOR Scarlatti opens. DMITRI and ELENA stand.

253 **VICTOR** 253
 Please, sit. My apologies for being
 late. I had some business to take
 care of in town, and...

254 **DMITRI** 254
 It's quite alright.

All three sit.

VICTOR

255 Our guest should be along shortly. 255
 At least I wasn't the last person
 to arrive.
 (joking but not really)

256 Can't have you three conspiring 256
 among yourselves.

DMITRI

257 I'm here to listen to what she has 257
 to say. Nothing more.

VICTOR

258 I think you'll be very interested 258
 in what she brings to the table. An
 old friend from Pittsburgh spoke
 very highly of her.

DMITRI

259 I see. 259

VICTOR

260 Elena, what did you find out? 260

ELENA

261 Let's see... 261

ELENA shuffles some papers around.

ELENA (CONT'D)
 (skimming through notes)

262 Um... she's 26, her parents worked 262
 for West Tek's satellite office in
 Manchester and were in Pennsylvania
 when the bombs dropped. They died
 about ten years ago and she struck
 out on her own. Didn't take her
 long to turn to the proverbial
 "dark side."
 (beat)

263 Moved around a bit... Virginia, New 263
 York... built up quite a
 reputation, which I'm sure your
 friend knows something about.

VICTOR

264 That's color. What do we need to 264
 know?

ELENA

265 She's smart. Reads people well, so 265
 you'll have to be careful there.

266 **DMITRI** Why did you look at me when you said that? 266

ELENA chuckles and continues.

267 **ELENA** Her specialty is in technology and its application. She made her money as a brain for hire, but don't underestimate her toughness. 267

268 **VICTOR** Weaknesses? 268

269 **ELENA** She lacks local knowledge, which could be a hindrance. Appalachia is a region with... very specific local flavor, shall we say, and a "one size fits all" approach may not suit our requirements to the extent that we'll need. 269

270 **VICTOR** I meant weaknesses we can exploit. 270

271 **ELENA** I see. There's not much, but I'm told that she can be distracted by a pretty face, which is somewhat interesting because part of her power is swaying people with hers. (beat) 271

272 And she has a temper. We may be able to steer her into decisions that are to our advantage rather than her own by... inflaming passions. 272

273 **DMITRI** Have you talked to Mr. Bliss about her? 273

274 **VICTOR** (very slightly agitated) Of course I have. But remember - as far as she knows, the people in this room are the only ones involved in this operation. 274

275 **DMITRI** Of course. Knowing that he's pulling the strings here could radically change her perspective on the matter. She may not have local knowledge, but she surely knows the name Mickey Bliss. 275

There is a knock at the door.

276 **VICTOR** Elena, would you be so kind? 276

277 **ELENA** Of course. 277

ELENA gets up and opens the door.

278 **ELENA** (CONT'D) Ah, you must be Isabelle. Please, come in. 278

279 (beat) Your reputation precedes you. I spoke with several people about you. Half of them were in love with you and the other half were terrified of you. 279

BETH laughs.

280 **BETH** You must be Elena. 280

BETH and ELENA enter.

281 **VICTOR** It's a pleasure to finally meet you in person. I'm Victor Scarlatti. 281

282 **BETH** No need to stand on my account, please. 282

Everyone sits.

283 **VICTOR** This is Dmitri Orlov. 283

284 **DMITRI** A pleasure indeed, Isabelle. Would you like a drink? 284

285 **BETH** 285
No thank you. Let's get down to
business, shall we?

286 **DMITRI** 286
You're direct. I like that.

287 **BETH** 287
Your time is valuable, and so is
mine.

288 **VICTOR** 288
Of course. As I alluded to in our
discussions over the radio, we're
making a move. A big one.

289 **BETH** 289
So big that you don't quite have
the muscle to pull it off.

290 **DMITRI** 290
We have plenty of muscle.

291 **VICTOR** 291
But for something like this, we
need more. Fast jump, high risk. We
know it can be done. But to do it
right, we need to... temporarily
augment our existing resources.

292 **BETH** 292
And that's where I come in.

293 **VICTOR** 293
Precisely.

294 **BETH** 294
What's the play?

295 **VICTOR** 295
How familiar are you with
Appalachia?

296 **BETH** 296
Not very, just by reputation. No
particularly strong factions,
middling Brotherhood of Steel
presence along with the weakest
group of Raiders I've ever heard of
and a few groups of Boy Scouts.
(beat)

297 Frankly, I don't know why you're 297
interested in making a move there.

298 **VICTOR** 298
Appalachia's got a good thing
going. We think we can do better.
There are a lot of people there and
we feel there's a lot of untapped
potential. They need leadership.
They've spent what, the past five
years sitting around singing
Kumbaya to each other?

299 **DMITRI** 299
Pathetic.

300 **BETH** 300
So you're just trying to... expand
your empire a bit? Seems like a lot
of effort for comparatively little
return.

301 **VICTOR** 301
We have our reasons. But we also
have a somewhat limited window of
opportunity.

ELENA clears her throat.

302 **VICTOR** (CONT'D) 302
(very slightly
perturbed)
Yes, Elena?

303 **ELENA** 303
Before we go any further, I'm going
to ask the question that no one
else seems to want to ask. Why?
What's in this for you?
(beat)

304 304
You don't need the money. Your work
has been... *measured* in a way that
makes it clear that you don't crave
power. You have no ties to
Appalachia, no vengeance to seek.
Your motivations are not clear to
me, and that's something I don't
like.

305 **VICTOR** 305
Elena...

306 **BETH** 306
It's a reasonable question.
(beat)

307 307
And you're right, Elena.
(MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

I don't *need* the money and I don't care about power. You've clearly done your homework. Well done.

(beat)

308 As you said, Mr. Scarlatti, we all have our reasons. I suppose mine is that I'm a student at heart, and my "studies" have been profitable enough that I can be picky about what I choose to do or not do. What I choose to learn next.

(beat)

309 This operation is fascinating to me. My curiosity was piqued when I found out someone was making a big play in Appalachia, of all places.

VICTOR

310 How did you... 310

ELENA

311 Let her finish. 311

(beat, catching herself)

312 Please. 312

BETH

313 So like any good business relationship, I view this as an opportunity for both sides to get something they want. You get Appalachia, I get a little more knowledge. And I feather my bed so I can continue to get more. 313

VICTOR

314 I'd always heard that academia was a cutthroat environment, but I thought they were exaggerating. 314

BETH laughs.

VICTOR (CONT'D)

315 Now, with that out of the way, please tell us what you can bring to the table, and we can discuss potential terms. 315

BETH

316 I can provide an army. A completely expendable one. My rates vary based on the size of the force and its makeup. 316

VICTOR

(skeptical)

317 I'm... afraid we may have wasted 317
each other's time. We can get
mercenaries from anywhere.

BETH

318 Oh, Victor, you need to widen the 318
scope of your vision. More things
in heaven and earth and all that.

VICTOR

319 Go on. 319

BETH

320 I've sourced and, with some help, 320
perfected neural implants that
allow full and unfettered control
of whoever or whatever they're
attached to.

DMITRI

321 *Whatever?!* 321

BETH

322 I choose my words very carefully, 322
Mr. Orlov. Surely the people Ms.
Sorokin spoke with told you that.

(beat)

323 In any case, I can provide you with 323
myriad... well, "soldiers," for
lack of a better word. Humans,
Super Mutants, ferals, Deathclaws,
the list goes on.

VICTOR

(interest piqued)

324 I see... 324

BETH

325 As I said, my terms will depend 325
entirely on number and type. But,
at a basic level, I expect a large
deposit up front, the remainder of
the flat-fee we settle on at the
successful conclusion of the
operation, and a cut of your
business in and around Appalachia
moving forward.

(beat)

326 I may be a student, but this is 326
still business, not an academic
endeavor.

327 **DMITRI** Will you show us how to use this technology? 327

328 **BETH** Absolutely not. I was born at night, Mr. Orlov, but it wasn't last night. The technology and its secrets remain mine. 328

VICTOR chuckles.

329 **VICTOR** Of course. 329

330 **BETH** I don't expect you to provide the details of your plan right now. That's a discussion for another day. But I do need some context so that I can start thinking things through. 330

331 **VICTOR** You mentioned the Brotherhood of Steel presence. That's our in. We have a man inside providing intel, and we found out about the perfect opportunity to strike. We'll be able to cut the heads off every single faction, large and small. Brotherhood, Responders, hell, even the Mothman Cultists are all going to be in one place for the first time... and possibly the last time. 331

332 **BETH** I don't understand. Are they... having some sort of big meeting? Unifying somehow? 332

333 **VICTOR** No. 333

334 (beat) Mark your calendar, Isabelle. On October 23rd, we're going to a wedding. A Brotherhood of Steel Scribe and some vault dweller are getting hitched and anybody who's anybody is going to be there. Wear something nice. 334

END OF ACT TWO

345 **STEPHEN** 345
Oh, it was a drilling company.
Their headquarters were in
Washington, if memory serves...
fair warning, it doesn't always.

BETH chuckles.

346 **BETH** 346
I know the feeling.

STEPHEN chuckles.

347 **STEPHEN** 347
They were here first. The other two
came later.

348 **BETH** 348
Well, I can understand Vault-Tec
and a drilling company working
together. You'd think I'd have
heard of them before in that case,
though...

349 **STEPHEN** 349
Oh? Why's that?

350 **BETH** 350
 (catching herself)
Vault-Tec is a bit of a hobby of
mine. Wish I'd been born in one of
those fancy vaults.

351 **STEPHEN** 351
Don't we all. We were very lucky to
survive at all. This area was
spared from the bombs, but
unfortunately it wasn't spared from
their fallout.
 (beat)

352 But we managed, somehow. And now 352
our business is thriving.

353 **BETH** 353
It's a lovely inn.

354 **STEPHEN** 354
Thank you. I'm Stephen. My sister
Mara and I run this place. I take
care of the inn, she manages the
restaurant.

355 **BETH** 355
Oh, a restaurant. I'm *famished*.

356 **STEPHEN** 356
Well, you've come to the right
place. Would you like to book a
room now, or wait until you've had
dinner?

357 **BETH** 357
I'll do it now.

358 **STEPHEN** 358
Excellent. How long will you be
staying?

359 **BETH** 359
Three nights. At least as far as I
know.

360 **STEPHEN** 360
Alright. That's 600 caps total, and
if you need to stay longer please
just let me know. We're very happy
to have you.
 (beat)

361 **STEPHEN** 361
If you could fill your name in our
ledger...

*STEPHEN slides the ledger to BETH. BETH writes her name and
slides it back.*

362 **BETH** 362
There you are.

363 **STEPHEN** 363
Oh! You're Isabelle! Please, put
your caps away. Your stay is being
taken care of by Mr. Scarlatti.

364 **BETH** 364
It is? That's very generous of him.

365 **STEPHEN** 365
Mr. Scarlatti is a generous man.
It's not an overstatement to say
that he's the reason this town has
been able to thrive the way it has.

366 **BETH** 366
Is it alright if I take my bags
into the restaurant with me? I'd
really like to get something to
eat.

367 **STEPHEN** 367
 Absolutely not. We'll take them to
 your room for you.

368 **BETH** 368
 Oh! Thank you, that's very kind.

369 **STEPHEN** 369
 Not at all. You're our guest.

370 (beat) 370
 The restaurant is right through
 there. You made it before the
 evening rush. We have a full bar if
 you'd like a drink after your meal
 as well. Or before. Or during.

371 (beat) 371
 Oh, one last thing. I almost
 forgot, Mr. Scarlatti left you a
 note.

STEPHEN gives a note to BETH. She opens it and reads.

372 **BETH** 372
 "Isabelle. Please enjoy your stay.
 I hope you have time to take in the
 sights while you're here. Victor."

373 (beat) 373
 Well, that's... nice of him.

374 (beat) 374
 Thank you, Stephen.

375 **STEPHEN** 375
 Thank you, Isabelle. 376

*BETH walks into the restaurant. There are several people
 here, conversations are going on but it's not very hectic or
 raucous.*

BETH sits at a table. A few moments later, MARA approaches.

377 **MARA** 377
 Hi! Can I get you something to
 drink while you look at the menu?

378 **BETH** 378
 That would be lovely. Vodka tonic,
 please.

379 **MARA** 379
 Sure thing. We just got a new kind
 of vodka in stock and I'd love to
 get your thoughts.

380 **BETH** Of course. 380

MARA leaves. BETH leafs through the menu.

After a few moments, MARA returns.

381 **MARA** There you go. Orlov Vodka and tonic. 381

MARA sets a glass on the table.

382 **BETH** Thank you. 382

383 **MARA** So, ready to order? 383

384 **BETH** I'm still looking, but I was wondering... is there anything interesting to do around here? 384

385 **MARA** "Interesting" can mean a lot of things... what kind did you have in mind? 385

386 **BETH** I thought there might be some opportunities to... explore while I'm here. Stephen said that this used to be quite a commercial hub, and Victor's note indicated that there's some sightseeing to be had. 386

387 **MARA** Ah! had you pegged as an "adventurer" from the second you walked through the door. You've been places. I can tell. 387

BETH chuckles.

388 **BETH** I don't know if I'd go quite so far as calling myself an "adventurer," But I do enjoy exploring. And I thought I might be able to find a... souvenir to take home to my friend. 388

MARA

389 That twinkle in your eye tells me 389
this must be a special "friend."

(beat)

390 Look. You seem like a nice kid, and 390
if you're working with Victor I
want to make sure you stay safe.

(beat)

391 I'm going to give you some advice 391
and I *strongly* recommend that you
heed it.

MARA pulls up a chair and speaks in slightly hushed tones.

MARA (CONT'D)

392 I don't know how much you know 392
about the Trinity, but there's
nothing holy about them.

BETH

393 You mean Vault-Tec, West Tek, 393
and... erm... Dunhill?

MARA

394 Dunwich. Yes. Trinity is what we 394
called the complex where all their
buildings and labs were.

BETH

395 I know a bit about Vault-Tec and 395
West Tek, and their reputations
are... less than sterling, let's
say. But I don't know anything
about Dunwich. Well, other than
what Stephen told me, which isn't
much.

MARA

396 If you take *one* thing from what I'm 396
about to tell you, *please* let it be
that you need to avoid the Trinity.
I don't care how seasoned an
adventurer you think you are, *stay*
away from that place.

BETH

397 Why? 397

MARA chuckles.

MARA

398 Do you believe in ghosts? 398

399 **BETH** 399
No.

400 **MARA** 400
Neither do I. But this is no
ordinary ghost story.
 (beat)

401 401
Back before the war, our parents
ran this place. We had a lot of
people come through here, and most
of them were here for the Trinity.
Business was good.

402 **BETH** 402
But...

403 **MARA** 403
But... there were signs.

404 **BETH** 404
Signs? What kind of signs?

405 **MARA** 405
It's hard to explain. Weather
changes, strange wildlife activity,
even reports of monsters. The
Dunwich people didn't help matters.

406 **BETH** 406
How do you mean?

407 **MARA** 407
They were... creepy, and the higher
you went up the chain, the creepier
they got. Just a weird, weird vibe.
Our folks wanted nothing to do with
them, but it's not like they could
turn away the business.

408 **BETH** 408
So... what happened?

409 **MARA** 409
Not long after the bombs fell, a
group of us went to the Trinity
complex to see if they needed any
help.

410 **BETH** 410
Did they?

MARA

411 No. They were gone. They must have 411
evacuated as soon as the first
sirens went off. That or they knew
it was coming. Wouldn't put it past
them...

(beat)

412 But we learned pretty quickly to 412
stay away from there. People
naturally wanted to go in and take
whatever they could to help them
survive... tech, food, hell some of
them even tried to shelter there.
It seemed fine, at first, but after
a while people started to not come
back. The few who did were scared
out of their wits and wouldn't talk
about it. Eventually we wised up
and figured out that it just wasn't
worth the risk. Nature's pretty
much taken over at this point.
Stuff grows like crazy over there.
It's the way of things, I suppose.
At least whatever was going on
there stayed contained.

BETH

413 That's quite a story. 413

(beat)

414 Well, I'll certainly take your 414
advice.

MARA

415 Good. I'll tell you what - after 415
you order, I'll sit down with you
and give you some places to
explore. Good ones. There's a lot
to see here, and there's no reason
to even think about the Trinity.
We'll find something nice for your
"friend."

EXT. TRINITY COMPLEX, NIGHT

BETH is poking around, quietly. The sounds of birds and insects are prevalent, but will decline slowly as she approaches the Dunwich building.

She speaks into her Pip-Boy.

BETH

416 This place is fascinating, Odessa, 416
you'd love it. The architecture
alone...

(MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

the Vault-Tec and West-Tek buildings are bog-standard, but this Dunwich building? It's newer than the other two, but it looks so old. It's like a haunted house, but... organic. Mara - from the inn - said that nature had started to take over, but this is different.

(beat)

417 It's like something you'd see in the Mire, but... not. Maybe there was a GECK here, too? 417

(beat)

418 I'm going to check out the Dunwich building first. Seen plenty of Vault-Tec and West Tek facilities, but I've never seen anything like this. 418

BETH begins to walk toward the Dunwich building.

An instrument starts to beep.

BETH (CONT'D)

419 Getting a strange energy reading. Not radiation. 419

(beat)

420 Hmm. The sensor doesn't know what to make of it either. If I can, I'll get a sample to bring home so you can catalog it. Guess you'll be borrowing my ring and my Pip-Boy when I get back. 420

The Pip-Boy clicks.

BETH (CONT'D)

421 Dammit. Didn't think I'd talked enough to fill a holotape yet. I guess time flies. 421

BETH swaps a new holotape in. And clicks a button.

BETH (CONT'D)

422 There. Alright, exploration log continued. It's... 11:37PM. 422

BETH continues to walk toward the building. The instrument beeps more quickly.

BETH (CONT'D)

423 Getting closer. Vegetation is getting thicker. Not impassable, at least not yet. 423

(MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

(beat)

424 Coming up to a gate. Probably 424
hasn't been opened for decades, but
I'll give it a try.

BETH opens the gate.

BETH (CONT'D)

425 Huh. That was... easier than it 425
should have been.

BETH enters a structure.

BETH (CONT'D)

426 It doesn't look like anyone or 426
anything's been in here for years.
Whatever that energy reading is, I
must be almost on top of it.
There's a doorway on the opposite
wall, I'll head there next.

*BETH walks around trying to find the source of the reading.
She is suddenly startled.*

BETH (CONT'D)

427 Oh! 427

(beat, calming herself)

428 Just a skeleton. Come on Beth, 428
you've seen hundreds of those,
nothing to worry about.

(beat)

429 Hmm. This is interesting, Odessa. 429
It's wearing... some sort of armor
on its forearm? Not combat armor,
more like something you'd see in
a... medieval painting. Gold, or at
least golden. Still shiny after all
these years.

(beat)

430 Hmm. That's where these energy 430
readings are coming from. The
skeleton must be lying right on top
of it. That's not a good sign.
Well, nothing ventured...

BETH skitters the skeleton out of the way.

BETH (CONT'D)

431 Huh. Nothing. But the readings 431
moved. I think... yeah, they're
coming from that piece of armor.
There's some writing on it, let me
see if I can...

There is a whoosh of energy as the bracer attaches to Beth's arm.

BETH (CONT'D)

(mildly panicking and
losing herself)

432 What the... it's... attached itself 432
to my arm! Odessa, I don't know
what's happening, but I... I'm
losing... can't stay out in the
open. I'll record as long as I
can... have to get inside first...

BETH staggers toward the doorway. She reaches it and there is another whoosh of energy that very pointedly does NOT sound like the portals from last season.

EXT. GRALSBURG, MORNING

A DEPUTY and GUARD are on patrol.

DEPUTY

433 I love Veil duty. Nothing ever 433
happens here.

GUARD

434 I think you just jinxed us. 434

The DEPUTY laughs.

DEPUTY

435 Should we go to see Elias and tell 435
him you want to join his cult?

GUARD

436 He'd better not hear you calling it 436
a "cult." He'll hit you with that
staff.

The DEPUTY laughs.

DEPUTY

437 If I was lucky. He'd probably... I 437
don't know, use me as a human
sacrifice or something.

The GUARD stops both of them.

GUARD

438 Hey, look. Over there. 438

DEPUTY

439 Very funny. 439

440 **GUARD** 440
I'm serious! Look!

441 **DEPUTY** 441
Ugh, she must've had too much at
the ball last night and passed out.
Good thing she didn't try to go
through the doorway.

442 (beat) 442
Unless she *did* try to go through
the doorway and that's what knocked
her out.

443 **GUARD** 443
Either way, we have to get her out
of here. How the hell did she even
get over the wall?

444 **DEPUTY** 444
We'll ask her when she comes to.

They get BETH up to a seated position. She is still out cold.

445 **DEPUTY (CONT'D)** 445
(gently)
Hey, wake up. It's okay, you're
safe.

446 **GUARD** 446
Uh...

447 **DEPUTY** 447
What?

448 **GUARD** 448
You're not going to say anything
about how she's dressed? It wasn't
a costume ball, was it?

The DEPUTY sighs.

449 **DEPUTY** 449
One problem at a time, okay?

450 **GUARD** 450
And what's that thing on her left
wrist? Never seen tech like that
before.

451 **DEPUTY** 451
I said one problem at a time!
(realizing something)
452 Wait... I *have* seen something like 452
that. Well, I *think* I have.

(MORE)

DEPUTY (CONT'D)

In one of the books at Corbenic. It looks dead, though.

GUARD

453 Holy shit... 453

DEPUTY

454 I swear, if you point one more 454
thing out to me...

GUARD

455 Look at her other arm. 455

DEPUTY

456 Wait, that isn't... it can't be. 456

GUARD

457 It's the other Bracer. 457

DEPUTY

458 (deeply concerned) 458
It *can't* be. It's a replica. It has
to be a replica...

GUARD

459 Let's get it off her. If anybody 459
sees that it's going to cause a *lot*
of problems, replica or not.

DEPUTY

460 Okay. 460

There is a zap of energy.

GUARD

461 Ow! Dammit! 461

DEPUTY

462 (awed) 462
That's no replica. We need to get
her to Corbenic. Louisa will know
what to do. I'll take her, you go
into town and have the Sheriff meet
me there. Do *not* tell him why. Just
tell him to trust me.

GUARD

463 Okay. 463

BETH groggily starts to come to.

BETH

464 Ugh... so bright... 464

DEPUTY

(gently)

465 Hey, welcome back. I'm going to 465
take you someplace safe. Are you
thirsty? Would you like some water?

BETH

466 That would be brilliant. 466

GUARD

(sotto)

467 What's with that accent? 467

DEPUTY

468 Shh! Get out of here! 468

(beat)

469 Here you go. 469

BETH drinks.

BETH

470 Thank you. 470

(beat)

471 Where am I? 471

DEPUTY

472 You're in Gralsburg. 472

BETH

473 Ah, of course. 473

(beat)

474 Where's... Gralsburg? 474

DEPUTY

475 You must've taken quite a knock. Do 475
you know how you ended up here?

BETH

476 No. I don't remember... anything. 476

DEPUTY

477 Okay, um... let's start with 477
something simple, then. I'm Eamon.
What's your name?

BETH

478 I... I don't know. 478

THE END