

BY DESIGN

Written by

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1 INT/EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT**1**

Sarah stands on the warmly lit steel paneled bridge as the environment around her is engulfed by darkness. She walks along the bridge coming to an abrupt end cut off by the dark void. Hesitantly she reaches out her hand touching the void, ripples crash across the darkness. She moves closer.

A loud noise pierces the silence.

Sarah reaches to shut off her alarm.

2 INT. SARAH'S KITCHEN - MORNING**2**

Sarah is eating a modest breakfast looking through various feeds on her phone.

SARAH

AVA, what's on my schedule today?

AVA

Good morning Sarah. You look lovely today. Your schedule includes meetings from 10-1pm and lunch at Vista Perch from 2:30-3:30pm with Laura.

SARAH

Thank you AVA. Please message Laura: can't wait to see you later, hugs and kisses.

AVA

My pleasure.

3 INT. LIFESERVE CORPORATION ELEVATORS - MORNING**3**

LADY

Hold the elevator please!

SARAH

AVA hold the doors.

LADY

Thank you so much.

SARAH

For 10 credits I'll even choose your floor for you.

LADY

That's great.

Sarah with an expressionless face looks at the lady.

LADY
Wait are you serious?

SARAH
No of course not. I'm Sarah.

RACHEL
I'm Rachel, nice to meet you.

4 **EXT. NAYTECH CORPORATION - MORNING**

4

AVA
Helping our lives work seamlessly
with nature, technology, and each
other. Welcome to NayTech, ensuring
you have your best day.

CHILD
Mom who is that?

PARENT
That's AVA sweetie. She helps run
the city. Just like all the trees
and flowers you see she is
everywhere. In some places she can
appear in real life just like you
and me.

CHILD
Wow! Really?

PARENT
One day you'll even get some
special lenses for your eye so she
can show you things others cant
see. You'll even be able to hear
her wherever you go.

CHILD
Can I meet her?

AVA appears in full-scale. AVA wears a body suit and has the
appearance of a normal woman except for being partially
transparent and having a slightly glowing blue tint to her
body.

AVA takes a bow in front of the little girl.

AVA
Pleasure to meet you young lady I
am AVA.

The child tries to touch AVA but her hand passes through her.

5 EXT. KENVAH PARK - DAY

5

Kenvah park has a circular layout. At the center of the park is a large ring shaped pavilion. Winding white concrete paths divide the ring. Along the sides of the paths are filled with bright colored flowers, vibrant green shrubs, and tall spacious trees all shallowly submerged in crystal clear water.

NOAH

AVA, where is panel 32 located?

From Noahs vision a panel lights up in the upper ring. The ring shades citizens walking along the exterior of the park. Noah walks to the maintenance entrance to get on top of the upper ring.

6 EXT. KENVAH PARK - DAY

6

SARAH

AVA, what time is it?

AVA

The time is 2:20pm.

Sarah makes a small popping noise with her mouth. She walks through the park giving everyone that meets her eyes a smile and friendly nod.

SARAH

AVA, please highlight the path toward Vista Perch.

From Sarahs vision a path appears on the ground leading the way to Vista Perch. Text appears next to the path displaying "estimated arrival time 5min". Sarah walks along the path while looking up at all the nature that engulfs the architecture. The sun reflects off the windows highlighting the nature of the city.

7 EXT. VISTA PERCH BALCONY - DAY

7

Sarah checks the time and her messages. She looks toward Kenvah Park and sees a man working on the upper ring of the pavilion. She calls Laura while continuing to watch the man at the park.

SARAH

Hey Laura, where are you?

LAURA
I'm at work, what's going on?

SARAH
Waiting for you.

LAURA
Oh my gosh that's today? I'm so
sorry I thought that was tomorrow.

SARAH
I had AVA send you some messages.

LAURA
I never got them I'm sorry. But
tomorrow same spot and time okay?

SARAH
That's weird, but okay I'll see you
then.

Sarah hangs up the phone.

WAITER
Can I get you anything while you
wait for your friend?

Sarah begins to sit up.

SARAH
Oh I'm lea—

Sarah looks over again toward the man in the park. She sits
back down.

SARAH
Actually I'll take a mango iced tea
and the levane sandwich please.

8 EXT. KENVAH PARK PAVILION UPPER RING - DAY

8

Noah wipes the sweat off his forehead and takes a deep
breath. He checks the time, 3:10pm. Noah slams the panel shut
and walks toward the maintenance door.

9 INT/EXT. KENVAH PARK PAVILION RING - DAY

9

Sarah walking into the park notices what looks to be the man
she saw on the upper ring sitting on a bench. She fixes her
outfit and sits down next to the man.

SARAH

Hey there, couldn't help notice but
were you working on the ring up
there?

NOAH

Yeah.

SARAH

What were you doing?

NOAH

Fixing a panel.

SARAH

Oh that's cool, is that what you do
for work?

NOAH

No, not really.

SARAH

I see... Are you having a bad day?

NOAH

I'm fine.

SARAH

Alright then. I'm Sarah, it's nice
to meet you.

Noah looks up at Sarah meeting her eyes and contagious smile.
His eyes widen. He collects himself, sighs, looks down, and
walks away.

SARAH

Rude.

10 INT/EXT. SARAHS APARTMENT BALCONY - EVENING

10

Sarah's apartment is filled with memories, small trinkets,
and other simple items that contrast the modernity of
Nayverse. Sarah sits on her balcony. AVA appears in a small-
scale projected from Sarah's smart watch.

AVA

Is everything okay Sarah?

SARAH

Yeah. Just thinking about some guy
who was an ass today.

AVA

Maybe he was having a bad day.

Sarah slightly nods her head in agreement.

SARAH

Still. No reason to treat someone like that... Frustrates me even more that he was so damn cute.

Sarah looks out toward the city.

11 EXT. NAYVERSE CITY - NIGHT

11

Glimpses of the city scene include musicians playing in the streets, citizens drinking outside small restaurants and venues, trains quietly racing through the underground and above on the rails, and sounds of the wind cascading through the leaves and flower petals that cover the buildings. Sounds and lights of the city dim at night, keeping the sky clear. Ambient lighting gently highlights the nature of the city.

12 INT. VISTA PERCH - DAY

12

Sarah is looking out the window.

LAURA

Something on your mind?

SARAH

No, I'm okay.

LAURA

You know you're not very good at hiding things.

SARAH

This is very true. Alright. Well I was here yesterday, as you know, since we were supposed to do lunch.

Sarah purses her lips, looks up at Laura, and tilts her head to the side.

LAURA

I know, and I'm sorry again.

SARAH

Not your fault it's fine, really. Anyways, so I noticed some guy working on that ring over there.

LAURA

On top of Kenvah Park?

SARAH

Yeah that one. So I was heading back to work and I saw him sitting down in the park, so I decided to sit down and talk him up ya know.

LAURA

Oh do tell, this is getting interesting.

Laura sets her drink down on the table and leans forward.

SARAH

That's the thing, it really wasn't. He was so rude, and I introduced myself and he just left.

LAURA

Well then forget him. Sounds like an asshole.

SARAH

Yeah. I just can't stop thinking about him. Like he seems important.

LAURA

As in an important person like an important person where he works?

SARAH

Not that. Like he seems important to my life somehow and I don't know, this sounds silly saying it out loud.

LAURA

You'll never see him again just forget about it.

SARAH

Yeah, you're probably right.

LAURA

Usually am.

Sarah and Laura laugh.

SARAH

I don't know you always say you're never drinking again and we both know how that ends up.

LAURA

Oh come on. I'm not that wild.

Sarah leans down to take a sip of her drink and gives Laura a side eye.

SARAH
You know I love you.

LAURA
Yeah yeah love you too.

13 INT. SARAH'S OFFICE AT LSC - DAY

13

John walks into Sarah's office.

JOHN
Hey Sarah, do you have the reports
for the output in sector 32?

SARAH
I'll send those over end of day,
but I can give a quick summary if
you like.

JOHN
Please.

SARAH
Everything is exceeding
expectations except for Kenvah
Park. I suspect there's more foot
traffic than the other areas, so
more oxygen is getting absorbed
than being produced.

AVA
That is correct. Foot traffic is
33% higher near Kenvah Park than
the surrounding area.

SARAH
I suggest placing more smaller
shrubbery and flora at the base of
the park and running towering vines
up to the surrounding ring.

JOHN
Sounds like a great idea, as always
from you.

SARAH
We could also boost nature growth
by reflecting sunlight with some
paneling.

JOHN
Fantastic. I look forward to seeing
the full report.

SARAH
I could go to the park and do some
quick sketches of my idea.

JOHN
I'm sure AVA could do that. Don't
create more work for yourself. I'll
catch up with you later though.
Thanks Sarah.

SARAH
Of course.

AVA appears in small-scale form Sarah's smart watch.

AVA
Sarah, I checked your schedule.
Thursday you can end the day early
and go to the park.

SARAH
Oh, you sure? Can't you do that?

AVA
I certainly can but I think it is a
great idea for you to do. Sounds
rather enjoyable, no?

Sarah makes a small popping noise with her mouth.

SARAH
Yeah it really does. Please add
that to my schedule.

14 INT. HAVEN CAFE - EVENING

14

BARISTA
Caramel coconut cashew latte for
Sarah.

SARAH
Thank you.

Sarah sits at a high top table at the window of the cafe
drawing in her blue sketchbook...

AVA
Very nice work so far Sarah.

Sarah lets out a small sigh and half-hearted smile.

SARAH

AVA about the reports. Seems like a lot of the parks have a significant decrease in oxygen output.

AVA appears in small-scale from Sarah's smart watch standing next to her sketchbook.

SARAH

Do you think we should be concerned?

AVA

I am sure it is nothing. That is why smart cities like Nayverse were designed. Making most personal transportation illegal and building a city around nature and technology has helped heal the planet.

SARAH

Yeah. I'm sure it's fine.

15 INT. LOBBY SARAHS APARTMENT BUILDING - EVENING

15

Sarah gets out of the elevator and walks to the front desk.

SARAH

Hey Mike, I believe you have some food for me?

MIKE

Ahh yes, I did, but I already ate it. Sorry.

Sarah smiles and rolls her eyes.

MIKE

I'm just kidding. What are you having tonight?

Sarah grabs the delivery bag from Mike.

SARAH

I went with a lentil curry wrap and a greek salad.

MIKE

You never cease to amaze me with all the different things you try.

SARAH

World's got a lot to offer. I want
to experience as much as I can.

MIKE

Inspiring as always Ms.

SARAH

Have a good night Mike.

MIKE

You too.

16 EXT. SARAHS APARTMENT BALCONY - SUNSET

16

Sarah finishes her meal and wipes her mouth with a napkin as
the sun disappears across the horizon.

SARAH

AVA, I've been meaning to ask you
why didn't Laura get my messages
about grabbing lunch?

AVA

My apologies. It appears to have
been a network error but I can look
more into it if you would like.

SARAH

That's quite alright, just curious.

AVA

Shall I play some music?

SARAH

Please.

A calm melody with piano fills the balcony. A woman sings in
another language.

SARAH

What is she singing about?

AVA

She sings of dancing amongst the stars. That everything around is so bright but something greater appears in the distance. Going there means leaving the comfort of everything she knows. A feeling she can't seem to shake no matter how hard she dances. She must finally set off to see the thing that shimmers in the distance.

17 INT/EXT. KENVAH PARK - DAY

17

Sarah is sketching her ideas about improving the park. A man sits down next to Sarah without her noticing.

MAN

Hey what are you sketching?

Sarah continues to sketch.

SARAH

Hey there. I'm trying to improve the nature around the park. It's what I do for work.

MAN

Oh that's really cool. Don't make my job any harder I work for Naytech on technology in this area.

SARAH

No promises.

Sarah looks up at the man. She leans back and places her pencil down on the sketchbook.

SARAH

Oh, you're th-

NOAH

What I meant to say the other day is my name is Noah, and it's nice to meet you Sarah.

Noah reaches out his strong hand offering to shake Sarahs. Sarah smiles and shakes his hand.

NOAH

I'm sorry about the other day. Its just I. You know, it was one of those days that seems to be everyday now.

SARAH

Yeah I understand. Well actually not really but I think I could. I'm a pretty cheerful person. I like talking with everyone and meeting all the new people in the city. Everyone here is so nice. I shouldn't say everyone cause you were, well, I'll just say not so nice. But yeah sometimes I go home and just think that it still all appears to be the same even with all the new people and experiences I have. I don't know why I'm telling you this. I'm sorry, I talk a lot.

NOAH

No please I like listening to you.

SARAH

Okay! What do you do? I work with LifeServe Corporation. Mainly for improvement in oxygen output and the flow of traffic.

Noah looks around the park.

NOAH

I have noticed it looking more beautiful lately.

SARAH

You can thank me for that.

Sarah smiles and hip checks Noah sitting next to her.

NOAH

Well I cou—

AVA

Noah this is your reminder for your meeting in 10 minutes.

NOAH

Shit. I'm gonna be late.

Noah stands up and smiles at Sarah.

It was nice to officially meet you Sarah.

Noah starts walking away.

SARAH
Wait! Noah!

Noah turns around to face Sarah as she stands up, puts her blue sketchbook down, and walks towards him.

SARAH
Are you, can I-

NOAH
Are you going to be back in the park anytime soon?

SARAH
Yeah definitely.

NOAH
Maybe I'll see you here next Tuesday, around the same time?

SARAH
I certainly hope so.

NOAH
Bye Sarah.

SARAH
Bye Noah.

Sarah sits back down and puts her sketchbook on her lap.

18 INT/EXT. MONACO TERRA - EVENING

18

SARAH
I'll have the apple jam encrusted salmon and honey spice glazed asparagus please.

WAITER
Excellent choice. And for you Ms.?

LAURA
I'll take the alfredo linguine.

WAITER
Very well.

LAURA
So what's with you? You seem like something's different... Come on, stop being so quiet. You're never quiet.

SARAH
Well you were wrong.

LAURA
Okay I already don't believe you.

SARAH
You said I'd never see him again.

LAURA
Who?

Laura raises her hand to the side with her palm facing up.

LAURA
Oh don't tell me it was that jerk
from the park.

SARAH
Yep.

LAURA
That has you smiling, why? Did you
give him a piece of your mind?

SARAH
No. Uhh he was different. He was
really nice. He actually remembered
my name and apologized. He works
with technology in the area.

LAURA
What company?

SARAH
Oh I didn't ask. I guess I was
probably the main one talking.

LAURA
Now that I believe.

Sarah smirks at Laura.

LAURA
Did you get his number? Are you
going to see him again?

SARAH
I didn't get his number but he
asked if I was going to be back in
the park next Tuesday.

LAURA

Oh intriguing. Well, I got to say I don't know about this man but you do seem excited.

SARAH
Thanks Laura. Plus I know you have my back.

LAURA
No place would be safe for that man.

SARAH
You scare me.

LAURA
I think I scare everyone unfortunately.

SARAH
My doorman's kind of cute and he's really nice. Maybe you wouldn't scare him off.

LAURA
That's the best you got for me?

SARAH
Not like you'd remember the night anyways.

LAURA
What's that suppose to mean?

SARAH
Your nickname was blackout Laura.

LAURA
Hey. I resent that. It's true, but still.

SARAH
You should come by and meet him. Just a passing hello. Then if you're interested great and if not whatever.

LAURA
I don't kn—

SARAH
I'm sure he would like—

Laura lets out a loud gut wrenching burb.

you.

Sarah stares at Laura.

LAURA

What?

SARAH

You're so pretty.

19 INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

19

RACHEL

Anything exciting happen today?

NOAH

Same old same old. Well maybe.
Guess time will tell.

RACHEL

Yeah you don't seem too down today.
Don't tell me you met someone.

NOAH

I might have.

RACHEL

You're so secretive I hate you.

NOAH

Nah, you know you love me.

RACHEL

I suppose you have your moments.

NOAH

I'll drink to that.

Rachel and Noah cheers their drinks and take a sip.

NOAH

Anyways how's work?

RACHEL

Quite well. Although I saw a report
that the parks are having-

Noah is staring out the window.

RACHEL

You're not even listening to me I
swear.

NOAH

I am I am. Please go on.

RACHEL

Nope. It's fine. How's work?

NOAH

Glad you asked. I—

RACHEL

I was kidding. Shut up and listen.

NOAH

Alright tell me about the reports.

RACHEL

Well to sum it up because your attention span seems lacking. Basically the parks haven't had this much trouble producing oxygen since the first years of the city.

NOAH

Did they say why?

RACHEL

You know I—

WAITER

Another martini for you ms and another old fashioned for you sir?

RACHEL

I'll have another one please.

NOAH

I'll do one one more. Thank you.

RACHEL

Do you ever try anything new?

NOAH

I just tried listening to you for once.

RACHEL

I swear I will cut you.

Noah slowly slides the knife and fork next to Rachel away from her as she stares at him.

AVA appears in small-scale from Sarah's smart watch.

AVA
How was your day Sarah?

SARAH
Oh so wonderful. Thanks for asking.

AVA
May I ask what made it so wonderful?

SARAH
You may. I think I met someone.

AVA
That makes me really happy to hear.
Shall I play some music?

SARAH
No thank you. I think I'll do some writing.

Sarah opens her blue sketchbook, sets it down on the table in front of her, and picks up her pen.

"She stares at the stars. She wonders if the journey has already started. The journey off into what could be greater. It frightens her, her legs tremble, but she continues to walk. She knows she can't turn around. She is hopeful, but scared all she has known isn't real."

21 INT. NAYTECH LOUNGE - NOON

21

Noah eats his lunch and stares at anyone being too loud.

RACHEL
Text Message: What's up!?
Drinks tonight?

NOAH
Text Message: Not sure.

RACHEL
TM: Please we both know you're going home and doing nothing.

NOAH
TM: That's not true. Plus I could work on important stuff too.

RACHEL

TM: It's Friday, come on... Please
please plllleasssee.

NOAH

TM: Ugh Fine. Where are we going?

RACHEL

TM: YAY! There's a sweet rooftop
bar near my place called Watchyard.
Meet me there at 8!

22 EXT. WATCHYARD BALCONY - NIGHT

22

RACHEL

Here's your drink sir.

NOAH

Thank you my lady. What's that?

RACHEL

It's called a dark sunset. try it.

Noah takes a sip of Rachel's drink.

NOAH

That's pretty good.

RACHEL

I know right.

NOAH

So tel-

RACHEL

Do yo-

RACHEL

Oh sorry go head.

NOAH

No please.

RACHEL

Do you like the place?

Noah looks around.

NOAH

Seems like a chill spot. I like the
view, you can see almost the entire
city.

RACHEL

That's my favorite part. Alright,
so, I bought you a drink tell me
about the other day.

NOAH
Ahh I see that's how this works.

RACHEL
Oh come on, please.

Rachel slightly sticks her lower lip out and frowns while
looking at Noah.

NOAH
Fine you win. Well I was working in
Kenvah Park the other week.

RACHEL
How was that?

NOAH
Frustrating. It took forever but
afterwards I was sitting in the
park relaxing and some girl started
talking to me.

RACHEL
Let me guess you were an asshole.

NOAH
What, no!

Rachel smirks and slightly tilts her head to the side.

NOAH
Alright. Yeah. I was an asshole.

RACHEL
As usual.

Noah smirks back at Rachel.

RACHEL
Oh shut up. Go on.

NOAH
A couple days ago in the park I
actually saw her again.

RACHEL
Did you talk to her?

NOAH

Yeah. And you may not believe it,
but I wasn't a complete ass and we
had a nice chat.

RACHEL
What's her name?

NOAH
Her name's Sarah. Think she
actually works at LSC.

RACHEL
Sarah does sound familiar. Did you
get her number?

NOAH
No. But we kind of have plans to
see each other again in the park.

RACHEL
Well well well this is quite an
interesting development.

Rachel taps her fingers on the table.

NOAH
We shall see. Cheers to tonight...

Noah and Rachel get more drinks as the night goes on.

Loud screams come from the opposite side of the bar. Noah and Rachel look in the direction of the screams. Through the crowd they see a glimpse of a woman dancing on the bar top.

NOAH
She's certainly having a good time.

The lady abruptly falls off the bar taking a few glasses down with her.

Correction, was having a good time.

Rachel laughs and looks down at her drink.

RACHEL
You know.

Rachel slowly swirls her drink around.

RACHEL
We've been friends for some time,
and you've never seen my place.

NOAH

You've never invited me!

RACHEL
That's not true at all!
But. I'm inviting you now.

Noah finishes his drink and sets it on the table.

NOAH
Sure, why not.

23 INT. RACHELS APARTMENT - NIGHT

23

Rachel opens the door to her apartment and straightens her arm out gesturing Noah to come inside.

RACHEL
I'll show you around. So we have
the living room here.

NOAH
Love the furniture.

RACHEL
Thank you thank you. Here's the
kitchen.

NOAH
Wow this is incredible, you must
cook a lot.

RACHEL
I try my best. Here's my office.

NOAH
Very nice.

RACHEL
And this is the bedroom.

NOAH
Quite the view.

RACHEL
Yeah it's nice to be able to see
everything from a distance and feel
like you have a place to get away.

NOAH
Yeah I'd probably spend too much
time in here.

Rachel stares at Noah.

NOAH
Uhh, not your bedroom. Sorry. I
just mean a place to get away.

RACHEL
I love when you get nervous. How
bout a movie?

24 INT. RACHELS LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

24

Rachel moves her hand around in her kitchen cupboard as the
glasses clank together.

RACHEL
Do you want a drink? I can make
something.

NOAH
Yeah sure.

RACHEL
The remote for the speakers is on
the coffee table. Feel free just
choose whatever.

Noah sits on the couch, fiddles with the remote, and chooses
some relaxing house music.

RACHEL
And here I thought your music taste
would be awful.

NOAH
Hey give me some credit.

Rachel takes a seat next to Noah.

RACHEL
Your drink sir.

NOAH
What is it?

RACHEL
Just try it.

Noah slowly brings the glass to his mouth, Rachel tips his
glass up. Noah coughs and Rachel laughs. He sets the drink
back down.

NOAH

Okay so, apparently you can cook
make drinks have great taste in
music, obviously.

RACHEL
Obviously.

NOAH
And you have this incredible place.
So what's the deal?

RACHEL
What do you mean?

NOAH
Well how are you single?

RACHEL
Oh you don't like that? Why don't
you do something about it?

Rachel takes a drink.

NOAH
That's no—

RACHEL
Just kidding, just kidding. I don't
know, I guess just waiting for
someone special, plus I'm shy.

NOAH
Okay now you're lying. You're 100%
not shy.

RACHEL
I am. It's just easy with you.

A new song starts playing.

RACHEL
I love this song, dance with me.

Rachel stands up and reaches her hand out to Noah. They dance
in the living room with the city in the background.

RACHEL
Hey you're not bad.

NOAH
You expected less?

RACHEL
No comment.

Rachel and Noah sit down as the movie starts playing... The movie ends. Noah checks his phone.

NOAH
I didn't realize how late it was. I should probably get going.

RACHEL
You could stay here.

NOAH
Really?

RACHEL
Yeah, absolutely.

NOAH
Nah I shouldn't. I enjoy night walks anyways.

RACHEL
I understand. Well, thank you for hanging out tonight.

NOAH
Thanks for the invite. We should do it again soon.

Rachel walks Noah to the door and gives him a strong hug.

RACHEL
Get home safe.

NOAH
You too. I mean yes, bye.

Rachel laughs and Noah blushes. She closes her door.

25 INT. NOAH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

25

Noah stumbles into his bedroom, trips onto his bed, and slams his face into a pillow.

NOAH
AVA, do me a favor.

AVA
Yes Noah?

NOAH
Don't set my alarm.

AVA

Very well. Goodnight.

26 INT. NOAHS APARTMENT - DAY

26

The blinds begin to raise. The sunlight beams on to his face.

NOAH

AVA what the hell?

AVA appears in small-scale from Noah's smart watch on the night stand next to his bed.

AVA

How can I help?

NOAH

Why are the blinds raised? I asked you not to do that.

AVA

You asked not to set the alarm.
Also, I must add it is 1pm.

NOAH

A bit condescending there.

AVA

Have a lovely day Noah.

AVA disappears. Noah grabs his pillow from under his head and throws it across the room.

27 INT. NOAHS LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

27

AVA

Noah, your delivery has arrived.

Noah wakes up looking at his nearly full cup of coffee in front of him with the TV playing in the background.

AVA

I will send it up.

NOAH

Thank you.

AVA

Might I suggest less alcohol next time and maybe a morning run.

NOAH

Yeah yeah.

Noah grabs his pizza from the door and sets it on the kitchen counter. He leans down close to the food, opens the pizza box and takes a big sniff... Noah continues watching TV in the kitchen as he eats his pizza.

28 INT. RACHELS LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

28

Rachel lays flat on the couch and calls Noah.

RACHEL

Hey thanks for coming over last night it was a lot of fun.

NOAH

Yeah it was. I love your place.

RACHEL

Thanks. What have you been up to?

29 INT. NOAH'S LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

29

Noah looks around his place. The living room is a mess of paper towels and plates resulting from his meal and clothes scatter on the floor from last night.

NOAH

Oh you know, just productive things and cleaning.

RACHEL

Really? I've been sleeping all day and just ate some pizza.

NOAH

To be honest I've been doing the exact same thing.

RACHEL

Oh I see we have a liar. Don't worry you can redeem yourself depending on the pizza you got.

NOAH

A margarita pizza.

RACHEL

I got the same thing! Is it from Brick Wall Pizza?

NOAH

Yeah that's my go to spot.

RACHEL

No way. We are definitely going there sometime.

NOAH

I look forward to that.

RACHEL

I'll let you get back to being productive though. Just wanted to say I had fun last night. Talk to you soon.

NOAH

For sure.

30 EXT. RIVER WALK - AFTERNOON

30

Joggers, couples, families, and citizens of all sorts walk near the calm river flowing along the exterior of the city. Sarah and Laura drink coffee and walk as a light breeze flows through their hair.

LAURA

How is your, uhh, I forgot.

SARAH

Lavender blossom latte and it's excellent. You want to try it?

Laura tries Sarah's drink.

LAURA

You know what that's actually great. But I'll stick to my boring caramel river latte.

Sarah and Laura sit on a bench that's somewhat secluded from the rest of the crowd.

LAURA

So Tuesday? You excited?

SARAH

Yeah excited, and nervous. Should I wear something specific? What should I say? Should I ask him out?

LAURA

Just go with the flow, try to relax.

SARAH

I'll try.

LAURA
You should grab drinks, offices are closed Wednesday for the holiday.

SARAH
That's not a bad idea.

LAURA
I mean do I have any bad ones?

SARAH
What's new with you though?

LAURA
Look at all these people, so happy.
Makes me sick.

Sarah laughs.

SARAH
Did someone have a little too much fun last night?

LAURA
I am still trying to work through the hangover of Friday night.

SARAH
What'd I miss?

LAURA
Some rooftop bar, I can't even remember the name.

Laura lifts her pants up.

SARAH
Holy shit is that a bruise?

LAURA
Oh you know girls and elevated surfaces.

SARAH
I would like to revisit you not having any bad ideas.

LAURA
Fair. But maybe it wasn't my idea.

SARAH

Uh-huh. I'm glad I'm not sharing
your struggles today.

Sarah pats Laura a few times on the leg.

LAURA
That shit hurts!

Sarah winks at Laura.

LAURA
I'll make sure you share my
struggles one day.

SARAH
Don't do me any favors.

LAURA
Oh only the best for you my love.

31 INT. LSC ELEVATOR - MORNING

31

The elevator door opens and Sarah walks in.

RACHEL
Hold the door please!

SARAH
Good morning.

RACHEL
Thank you so much.

SARAH
My pleasure. You're Rachel right?
We met like this last week.

RACHEL
I am. I'm sorry I forg-

SARAH
I'm Sarah.

Rachels eyes widen and lifts her head up ever so slightly.

RACHEL
Sarah, right, sorry I'm always
forgetting things.

SARAH
That's quite alright it's early.

RACHEL

I just have to say you are
gorgeous, sorry if that's weird.

SARAH
Not at all. Thank you so much. And
you're—

Sarah looks Rachel up and down.

You're really beautiful.

RACHEL
Thank you, I have my days.
This is my floor.

SARAH
Have a great day Rachel.

RACHEL
You too Sarah.

32 INT. MEETING ROOM - NOON

32

Sarah walks into the meeting room.

JOHN
Hey Sarah, shouldn't be too long
just waiting on everyone else.

SARAH
Okay.

JOHN
I finished reading your report and
saw your renderings.

SARAH
And what do you think?

JOHN
Fantastic job. Did AVA do the
renderings?

SARAH
Actually I did those. I had some
free time and enjoy sketching. Hope
you don't mind.

JOHN
Not at all. Quite incredible
really. Never knew you were such an
artist.

SARAH

I really appreciate that.

Sarah's report is displayed on the TV on the wall as everyone walks in and sits at the large conference table.

SARAH

The findings of my report, with the help of AVA, have led to a plan with a solid foundation to improve sector 32.

JOHN

As you are all aware the parks in the city haven't been this inefficient in oxygen production since the early years.

SARAH

AVA and I believe with this new strategy we can improve all the parks in Nayverse.

JOHN

AVA will send you all the detailed reports. Are there any questions?

Sarah begins fidgeting, shifting her weight from foot to foot, as more questions arise. She checks the time. The meeting ends shortly after and everyone leaves the room.

John briefly places his hand on Sarah's shoulder.

JOHN

That was great Sarah. Truly.

SARAH

Thank you. Excited about finally getting all of this done.

JOHN

Some of us are going out for drinks later this week, care to join?

SARAH

That sounds fun. I'll let you know.

JOHN

I'd love to see you there. But hey, great presentation again and enjoy your day, you earned it.

SARAH

You too.

33 EXT. NAYTECH CORPORATION - MOMENTS LATER

33

AVA

Noah there is an emergency in sector 35 that requires your attention.

NOAH

Seriously? Can't you deal with this?

AVA

I am sorry there is a network error I can not get around.

NOAH

How long will this take?

AVA

Repairs should take approximately 40 minutes.

NOAH

Can't this wait till after lunch?

AVA

I am sorry this requires immediate attention.

Noah closes his eyes and leans his head back and upward towards the sky.

NOAH

Fine. Highlight the path.

34 EXT. SECTOR 35 - DAY

34

NOAH

AVA test it again, is it fixed?

AVA

Everything is operational.

NOAH

What time is it?

AVA

The time is 3:40pm.

NOAH

Shit. Highlight a path to Kenvah Park.

35 EXT/INT. KENVAH PARK - MOMENTS LATER

35

Noah weaves in and out of people as he walks inside the park. He doesn't see Sarah sitting down. Suddenly he notices a girl walking in the opposite direction holding a blue sketchbook.

NOAH
Sarah! Sarah!

Sarah turns around to see Noah.

SARAH
Noah?

NOAH
I am so sorry. Something came up,
it was an emergency.

SARAH
It's okay.

NOAH
No it isn't. Will you let me make
it up to you?

SARAH
What did you have in mind?

NOAH
Can I take you to dinner say 8
tonight at Vista Perch?

SARAH
Sure, I'll see you at 8.

NOAH
Can I walk you back to work?

SARAH
As long as you're good company.

NOAH
I'll try my best. Please lead the
way.

SARAH
So what made you late?

NOAH
An emergency in sector 35 that was
cutting off nutrients from the
plants in that block.

SARAH

Oh, that's actually really important work. Thank you for taking care of that.

NOAH
Thanking me for being late. Looks like I can do no wrong.

SARAH
Yeah don't press your luck.

NOAH
Is that a sketchbook? Can I see it?

Sarah smiles and hands Noah her sketchbook. He flips through the pages.

NOAH
These are incredible!

SARAH
You really think so?

NOAH
Yeah are you kidding. Oh this is Kenvah park. Do you get paid for this?

SARAH
Just a hobby really.

NOAH
I mean wow, seriously. Just the sketching or do you use other mediums?

SARAH
A lot of sketching but I—

NOAH
Wait who are these people on the bench?

SARAH
Oh—

NOAH
Is that you and me?

Sarah begins to blush.

SARAH
No. Umm. Yeah. Sorry that's weird. I'm sorry I—

NOAH
Weird is good. I like weird.

Noah smiles and hands Sarah her sketchbook back.

SARAH
LSC is just around the corner.
Thanks for walking me.

NOAH
What's your number? I want to make
sure I don't lose you again.

Sarah and Noah exchange numbers. Sarah smiles and they walk
their separate ways.

36 EXT. VISTA PERCH BALCONY - NIGHT

36

Noah checks his phone and fixes his hair.

SARAH
Hey there stranger.

Noah gets up from his seat, hugs Sarah, and pulls out the
chair for her.

SARAH
Thank you.

Sarah smiles as she sits down.

NOAH
You know I didn't want to say
anything. But, you're a tad late,
ya know 3 minutes, but still.

SARAH
Oh is that right?

Noah smirks.

SARAH
How about we order some wine and
cheers to never being late again?

NOAH
I'm up for that challenge.

Noah and Sarah look over the menu on their phones. Sarah sets
her phone on the table and looks at Noah.

SARAH
It's funny we're sitting here.

NOAH
Why is that?

SARAH
Oh no reason. So do you know what
you're having?

NOAH
Probably the same thing I always
get from here.

SARAH
I usually try to get something new
every time I go out. You up for
another challenge?

NOAH
I'm scared, but intrigued.

SARAH
I'll order something new for you.

NOAH
And what if I don't like it?

SARAH
We'll call it even for you being
late to the park.

NOAH
Deal. I'll even cover my ears when
you order so it'll be a surprise.

WAITER
Can I start you off with some
drinks?

SARAH
Actually we're ready to order.

Sarah looks at Noah and he promptly covers his ears. The
waiter stares at Noah.

SARAH
Don't mind him, he's a little
strange.

WAITER
I'll have that right out for you.

The waiter looks at Noah again while walking away.

NOAH

Alright I can't wait, what did you order?

SARAH
Patience my dear Noah, patience.

NOAH
So tell me more about what you do at LSC.

SARAH
Ahh the boring talk first, lets save that for later.

NOAH
The floor is yours Ms.

SARAH
Okay I'm thinking of a number between one and seven.

NOAH
Seven.

SARAH
Impressive. Okay. I am looking at something inside the restaurant.

NOAH
Can I have a hint?

SARAH
It's on the left side.

NOAH
Is it that plant nearly hidden by the guy with the ridiculous hat?

SARAH
Damn you're good.

NOAH
Okay. I'm looking a—

WAITER
Here is your wine. Enjoy.

Noah grabs his glass and brings it toward his mouth.

SARAH
Wait don't drink yet we didn't cheers to anything. How about to a good night?

NOAH
Thought we were doing never being
late again?

SARAH
Cheers to both.

37 INT/EXT. VISTA PERCH BALCONY - NIGHT

37

The majority of the crowd has left. Those that remain are drinking inside the dim light throwback art deco style interior. A peaceful melody with piano gently dances through the crowd tip toeing its way to the balcony.

NOAH
I can't believe you told the waiter
not to tell me. I could just look
at the menu and figure it out.

SARAH
Don't spoil the fun. I'll give you
the answer for another date.

NOAH
Oh really?

SARAH
But first follow me.

Sarah sits up from her chair.

NOAH
Wait we have to pay first.

SARAH
Don't worry AVA will take care of
that. Won't you AVA?

AVA appears from Sarah's smart watch in small-scale.

AVA
It is my pleasure Sarah.

38 INT/EXT. KENVAH PARK - NIGHT

38

NOAH
AVA's a lot nicer to you than she
is to me.

SARAH
Maybe stop being such a dick.

NOAH
Hey I've been on my best behavior.

SARAH
The night isn't over yet.

Sarah turns to Noah and winks. Noah grins. It starts down-pouring rain. They run inside the pavilion ring. The upper ring shields them from the rain as they sit down on the bench.

SARAH
That was fun.

NOAH
Who knows with all this technology
we have maybe AVA could even
control the weather one day.

SARAH
Wouldn't that be something...

NOAH
I see this is going to be our spot
from now on.

SARAH
They might even name it after us.

NOAH
Yes, Noah and Sarah bench does roll
off the tongue rather easily.

SARAH
Oh just shut up and listen.

The rain starts to settle down and the sounds of trickling water from the small ponds, fallen rain drops, and shifting breeze shield the park from the other sounds of the city.

NOAH
I've never seen the park so empty.

SARAH
The stars light reflecting off the
plants and water really makes it
feel like another world.

NOAH
Those park reports. It's hard to
believe in moments like this.

SARAH

Yeah but reality is often not as it seems.

NOAH

With you, me, and AVA working on the ring I'm sure we can fix anything.

SARAH

Is that so?

Noah smiles at Sarah.

SARAH

Earlier I was going to say it was funny where we sat because that's when I first saw you working on the upper ring here.

NOAH

No doubt looking like a fool.

SARAH

Actually thought you were kind of cute.

NOAH

And what do you think now?

SARAH

I suppose you're alright.

Noah rolls his eyes at Sarah.

SARAH

Shut up and kiss me already.

Noah puts his hand on Sarahs cheek and pulls her in close. Their lips meet. Sarah and Noah kiss as the stars in the sky dim ever so slightly allowing the park to stand out in the city.

39 INT/EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

39

Sarah stands on the warmly lit steel paneled bridge as the environment around her is engulfed by darkness. She walks along the bridge coming to an abrupt end cut off by the dark void. She looks toward the void with her face nearly touching the surface.

A reflection abruptly appears.

Sarah jolts awake.

40 EXT. RIVER WALK - MORNING

40

Noah is jogging along the river and takes a break along the bridge resting his arms over the railing.

He feels a sharp tap in his side.

SARAH
Hey there stranger.

NOAH
Stalking me huh?

SARAH
You wish. This is my usual path.
You don't seem like much of a
runner.

NOAH
AVA kept bugging me to run so I
gave in and she led the way.

SARAH
You want to grab a coffee or
smoothie?

NOAH
Smoothie sounds great. Lead the
way.

SARAH
Only if you can keep up.

Sarah runs off as Noah follows closely behind while losing her in moments as she darts in and out of the crowd. Sarah stops outside the River Smoothie Shop followed closely by Noah.

SARAH
We'll have tw-

Noah gently pushes Sarah to the side. Sarah smiles as she loses her balance.

NOAH
Let me try it this time. We'll have
two mango papaya smoothies.

Noah and Sarah walk along the river.

SARAH
Bravo with your smoothie selection.

NOAH

You should see my taste in movies.

SARAH
Oh, a little strong for the morning
sir.

NOAH
Oh I'm sor—

SARAH
Strong is good, I like strong.

Noah smiles.

NOAH
Dinner and a movie Friday?

SARAH
I'll choose the first thing and
then we can do a movie after.

NOAH
What are we going to do?

Sarah starts jogging away and looks back at Noah.

SARAH
Patience Noah, patience.

41 EXT. STARS ARCADE - NIGHT

41

Sarah walks to the Arcade entrance noticing Noah walking up from the opposite direction.

NOAH
Didn't want to be late again huh?

SARAH
Just trying to be on my best
behavior. Follow me. Oh and Noah.

NOAH
Yes?

SARAH
Try to keep up.

Sarah opens the doors to the arcade. She looks back at Noah.

SARAH
Don't worry I got it.

42 INT. STARS ARCADE - NIGHT**42**

They pass video games virtual and physical of all sizes, colors, and genres. They walk up the stairs to the 3rd floor of the arcade seeing a massive open space. Sarah stretches her arms out wide and turns around towards Noah.

SARAH

Welcome to Aerial Adventure.

An Aerial Adventure employee explains the rules as Noah and Sarah gear up for the game.

EMPLOYEE

Are you two ready?

Sarah and Noah nod.

EMPLOYEE

Three, two, one, go!

Sarah and Noah glide through various environments and obstacles while trying to glide through circular floating checkpoints while hanging on for dear life... The game ends.

SARAH

Looks like I'll be choosing the movie tonight.

NOAH

How about another round in a different game?

SARAH

Someone's a sore loser, but go head pick the game, I'll beat you in that too.

Noah and Sarah walk through the main floor of the arcade.

NOAH

Okay how bout this?

SARAH

VR Slayer huh? Game on.

NOAH

Let's do the post apocalyptic Earth.

Noah and Sarah put on the gear for the game and it begins with a sudden countdown and siren. Sarah walks carefully hugging the walls. She comes to a dark wall and suddenly stops. Noah walks around the corner to see Sarah staring at the wall. The siren signaling the games end goes off.

NOAH

We're even now... Everything alright?

SARAH

Yeah of course, why do you ask?

NOAH

You were kind of just standing there.

SARAH

Im fine. Zoned out I guess.

NOAH

We don't have to watch a movie if you're not feeling up to it.

SARAH

No I'm fine, I want to.

NOAH

Let's go then.

43 INT. NOAHS APARTMENT - NIGHT

43

NOAH

You can put your shoes over there.

I'll give you the quick tour. Kitchen, living room right here, bathroom.

SARAH

Very spacious, I love the decor.

NOAH

And bedroom.

SARAH

Wow it's so dark in here you must sleep in a lot.

NOAH

Sometimes, but don't tell AVA that.

SARAH

Wouldn't want to get you in trouble
with big bad AVA.

NOAH
Yeah she reminds me all too much if
I'm wasting my day.

Noah walks into the kitchen looking for a bottle of wine and
an opener as Sarah sits on the couch.

SARAH
How are you with science fiction
movies?

NOAH
Some of my favorites.

Here's your wine.

SARAH
Thank you.

NOAH
What are we watching?

SARAH
Watch and find out.

The movie plays on as Sarah cuddles up to Noah resting her
head on his shoulder.

NOAH
So—

Sarah looks up at Noah.

SARAH
Shut up and kiss me.

Noah and Sarah kiss getting passionately caught up in each
other.

44 INT. NOAHS APARTMENT BEDROOM - MORNING

44

Sarah's head is resting on Noah's chest as the blinds raise
revealing a sunny day.

NOAH
AVA what's the time?

AVA
The time is 11:30am.

NOAH
That's weird.

SARAH
(yawning) What is?

NOAH
It's the first time she hasn't
bothered me about sleeping in.

Sarah kisses Noah.

SARAH
Do you always complain?

NOAH
Only around you. Will you let me
make you some breakfast or coffee
though?

SARAH
I'd love that, but I better get
going. I don't like to start my day
so late.

45 INT. NOAH'S APARTMENT DOOR - MORNING

45

NOAH
Thanks for coming. I. I. Are you
sure you don't want to stay? No
don't say anything. I know, I know,
patience right?

SARAH
Exactly.

Sarah lightly smacks Noah's cheek and kisses him.

SARAH
Don't worry I'll see you soon.

Sarah gives Noah another kiss.

SARAH
Bye Noah.

Sarah walks away and turns around one last time taking a long
look back at Noah before getting to the elevator.

46 EXT. KENVAH PARK - DAY

46

Noah is walking along the edge of the park. He notices there's an unusually large crowd gathering around around the outdoor seating area of a restaurant. Noah walks toward the crowd.

TV REPORTER

For those just joining us once again we are sorry to interrupt your scheduled program. Moments ago we received a compiled report from smart cities around the globe stating the cities oxygen production is decreasing significantly, including the parks epicenters where the majority of this production occurs. Coming up we have a representative from the founding members of smart cities to discuss these reports.

Noah walks into the interior of the park. He sees Sarah sitting in the pavilion ring.

NOAH

Sarah?

SARAH

Noah?

Everything in Noahs vision is fading to white. He loses sight of everything except his focus on Sarah.

NOAH

Sarah?

FADE TO: WHITE

47 INT. LAB - DAY

47

The screen fades in revealing a lab room, people in lab coats, and two people sitting in chairs. The people in lab coats are cheering as one pops open a bottle of champagne...

Noah and Sarah are sitting in the chairs.

PEOPLE IN THE LAB

Congratulations!

Noah and Sarah slowly sit up from their reclined chairs.

MIKE

Give them some space. You know how disorientating a test can be.

LAURA
Alright everyone out. There's cake
in the cafeteria.

AVA appears in full-scale.

AVA
Congratulations Sarah and Noah.

48 EXT. SIMCORP BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

48

Sarah sets foot outside the lab gazing out at Kaylum.

Kaylum is a partially enclosed ring habitat in space revolving around a distant star. Similar to Nayverse, nature engulfs advanced technology as the architecture fades into the background. Fields, rivers, homes, and short buildings fill the sight near the lab on any given day.

Noah walks out of the lab on to the steel paneled bridge seeing Sarah resting her arms on the railing.

NOAH
So that was.

SARAH
Yeah.

NOAH
Looks like we maybe ready to
launch... Everything alright?

SARAH
I just hope this will actually make
a difference.

NOAH
I'm sure it will. We can beat
Earthcholy... I have to get back
home. Tell John I said hi.

SARAH
Same to Rachel.

Sarah watches Noah walk along the bridge toward Kaylum.

49 INT. NOAHS LIVING ROOM - DAY

49

Noah walks into his house. Rachel runs to Noah and jumps into his arms.

RACHEL

I missed you so much.

NOAH
I missed you too.

Rachel and Noah kiss.

RACHEL
Come sit down, I'll make you some snacks.

Rachel is making snacks in the kitchen.

RACHEL
I hate that you have to be gone for days. Is it almost over?

NOAH
I hope so.

RACHEL
Can't you just tell me what you're working on?

NOAH
We've been over this. No one outside the lab can know until it's complete.

RACHEL
I know.

NOAH
It would do more harm than good if people knew we failed. Trust me.

Rachel sets the snacks down on the table in front of the couch Noah is sitting on. She cuddles up close to him kissing his cheek multiple times.

50 INT. SARAHS FRONT DOOR - DAY

50

SARAH
Hello?... AVA where's John?

AVA
John is at work for another 2 hours. Can I help you with anything?

SARAH
No. No, that's quite alright, thanks.

51 INT. SARAHS BEDROOM - DAY

51

SARAH
AVA dim the lights and close the
blinds.

Sarah flops onto her bed. Sarah taps her nearly transparent smart band on her wrist. A digital screen projects into the air. Sarah rotates her forearm facing her palm towards her and the digital screen switches from projecting in the air to on her forearm...

JOHN
Hey sweetie. Wake up.

John nudges Sarah.

JOHN
Wake up.

SARAH
Hmmm?

JOHN
I made some dinner.

SARAH
What time is it?

JOHN
Come eat. I made dinner.

SARAH
I'll be down in a minute.

John walks out of the bedroom.

52 INT. SARAHS KITCHEN - EVENING

52

TV REPORTER
As you know the death rates from
Earthcholy have been rising.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY MEMBER
Yes unfortunately that is the case.

TV REPORTER
Why is that happening? Has there
been any progress on understanding
this illness?

MEDICAL COMMUNITY MEMBER

Your questions coincide. The short answer is we are not entirely sure.

TV REPORTER

How is that possible? Earthcholy has been around for quite some time.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY MEMBER

As you can remember it took us a long time to even identify what was causing the rise in deaths and suicides. I assure you we are making progress and we are beginning to understand more and narrow down what seems to be a definitive cause of Earthcholy.

TV REPORTER

For all of us I certainly hope so.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY MEMBER

For now our best approach is being there for each other and recognizing the early symptoms.

Sarah walks downstairs.

SARAH

Smells great.

JOHN

Anything to drink?

SARAH

I'm fine with water... Do you mind turning that off?

JOHN

Yeah of course.

TV COMMERCIAL

Tired of smart glass? Try the all new smart fabrics from Kaylum Textiles! With the ability to project all your digital content on almost any material or fabric.

John turns off the commercial. The digital screen disappears from the wall. Sarah and John sit down to eat.

SARAH

This is very good. Thank you.

JOHN
Of course.

Sarah looks out at Kaylum as the stars start to shine.

JOHN
What's on your mind?

SARAH
Nothing.

JOHN
Lately every time you come back
from that lab you're so—

SARAH
So what?

JOHN
Distant. I just don't understand.
I'm here, and you seem to be off
somewhere else. I can never get
anytime with you.

SARAH
Yeah well when I am here you're
rarely around!

John shakes his head and sighs.

SARAH
Hey I'm sorry. Come here.

Sarah gets up from her chair and sits on John's lap giving
him a hug and kiss.

SARAH
I'm right here.

53 EXT. KAYLUM - NIGHT

53

Darkness spreads over Kaylum. People and animals are few and
far apart. The only light coming from various accent lighting
in the environment and the stars reflecting off everything.

54 INT/EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

54

Sarah stands on the warmly lit steel paneled bridge as the
environment around her is engulfed by darkness. She sees a
dark figure near her starting to walk away. She walks after
the figure as it disappears into the darkness.

Sarah wakes up to find John already gone.

AVA

Good morning Sarah. You have a meeting today at 12pm with Noah at Minor Park.

55 INT/EXT. MINOR PARK - NOON

55

Sarah walks into the interior of the park seeing Noah sitting at a table.

She taps his left shoulder and makes her way around his right side.

NOAH

Hey there.

Sarah sits across from Noah.

SARAH

Hey, how was your night?

NOAH

It was good. Always takes some time to adjust. How's John?

SARAH

Oh John, is John. How's Rachel?

NOAH

She's good. Just happy I'm home. She says hi.

Sarah looks down.

NOAH

So the test. I think everything is running smoothly. I'm not sure if we need another.

SARAH

Noah if we launch too early and it's not—

NOAH

You've said that the past ten times.

SARAH

I just want to make sure.

NOAH

We've ran the simulation through so many different environments and time periods with as many different parameters we can think of.

SARAH

Yeah.

NOAH

Including the last test period right before everything on Earth went to shit.

SARAH

You know if we launch and it fails. It would—

NOAH

And you know if we wait too long.

SARAH

If we fail we'd be responsible for all those lives.

NOAH

I understand you're scared but Sarah we were just there on Earth you know how quickly everything can turn. Just like that. Our chance, Kaylum could be gone at any moment.

SARAH

And what if we need to fix something in the simulation or we need to reset AVA. Fixing the simulation while it's live would be immensely difficult to say the least and resetting AVA would be nearly impossible after she is live.

NOAH

I thought you were fully behind AVA. You've said she's had no setbacks and works exactly how we designed her to be.

SARAH

Yeah I did and I do. I'm just trying to do everything I can.

NOAH

We all are!

SARAH
I know I'm sorry I—

NOAH
I didn't mean to yell... This has
to be the last one. We don't have
time to keep doing this.

SARAH
Thank you.

NOAH
But after that we need to launch.

SARAH
Agreed.

NOAH
I'll head to the lab and download
the reports.

SARAH
Why don't you just have AVA do it?
Still don't trust her I see.

NOAH
It's not that. I do. I just like
going into the lab, gives me
something to do.

SARAH
Whatever you say.

NOAH
Let's look over it and then we can
meet again to discuss our notes.

Noah sits up from his chair.

SARAH
Wait. Did you? Do you want to do
something tonight?

NOAH
I have plans with Rachel.

SARAH
Oh.

NOAH
But hey maybe you and John could
join us?

SARAH

Oh no, that's okay.

NOAH
We're just seeing a play and
grabbing some dinner.

SARAH
I'm not sure.

NOAH
Come on it will be fun to get back
to reality.

SARAH
Alright sure.

NOAH
I'll message you the details later.

Noah walks away.

56 INT. SARAHS BEDROOM - DAY

56

AVA
Reports from Noah. Would you like
me to summarize the results?

SARAH
Yes please.

John walks into the room.

SARAH
Hey what do you think about going
out with Noah and Rachel tonight?

JOHN
What are they doing?

SARAH
I think seeing a play and grabbing
dinner.

JOHN
I don't know, I thought you and me
cou-

SARAH
Oh come on you're always saying I
should get out more.

JOHN
What't the play about?

SARAH

I think it's about the stars
dancing and just overall story of
being hopeful.

JOHN

Sound riveting.

Sarah jabs John in the side.

JOHN

Alright alright sounds like fun.

SARAH

Really?

John nods and Sarah gives him a big hug.

JOHN

I'm gonna make some coffee do you
want any?

SARAH

Never say no to coffee.

Sarah opens her closet and looks through her hanged clothes
moving them from left to right.

SARAH

AVA highlight some outfit options
for tonight.

Multiple outfits including tops, bottoms, dresses, and shoes
are virtually outlined highlighted with different colors
allowing Sarah to quickly look at all the options.

57 INT. SIMCORP LAB - DAY

57

Noah leans over Mike's desk as he types on his keyboard. The
computer screen is digitally projected in front of Mike's
keyboard.

MIKE

I've looked over the reports.

NOAH

All we seem to be doing lately.

MIKE

I don't think we need another test.

NOAH

We're walking a fine line of
failing and waiting until it's too
late.

Noah sits down at his desk and starts typing.

MIKE

Did you hear they are starting to
implement poor weather outside to
help fight Earthcholy?

NOAH

That's actually an interesting
theory.

MIKE

How so?

NOAH

I haven't looked at their reports
but I'm assuming they think that in
order for someone to truly be happy
or rather appreciate things more
they need to experience the
opposite side of the spectrum.

MIKE

It's going to be a little strange
at first. I mean does anyone even
own anything to stay covered from
the rain or keep warm if it's cold?

NOAH

It could actually be dangerous.

MIKE

You mean the weather?

NOAH

No. I mean yes weather back on
Earth could definitely be dangerous
but—

MIKE

Still hard for me to imagine that.
I've seen reports and watched the
articles we have.

NOAH

Well we get this simulation right
you can experience all that
terrible weather first hand.

Mike Laughs.

MIKE
Maybe I'll pass.

NOAH
Them implementing this strategy in the beginning could have helped a lot. We might be at a point now where it's too late for that and could just make Earthcholy worse.

MIKE
That's a-

Laura walks in.

MIKE
Oh. It's you.

Laura glares at Mike.

NOAH
Anyways.

MIKE
Well tell Rachel I said hi.

LAURA
You guys doing anything tonight?

NOAH
Yeah dinner and a play. Sarah and John are joining us.

MIKE
You're kidding right?

LAURA
That's a shock. She never goes out.

Noah nods.

NOAH
Have a good night.

MIKE AND LAURA
Later.

58 INT. NOAHS BEDROOM - DAY

58

NOAH
AVA message Sarah: Meet us at Minor theater at 5pm.

Noah and Rachel are getting dressed.

NOAH

Hey honey, hope you don't mind, I invited Sarah and John.

RACHEL

I think that's great. I haven't seen them in forever.

NOAH

Okay good. Yeah she never gets out, so I just figured I would invite her.

Rachel comes behind Noah hugging his waist.

RACHEL

It's great, really.

59 INT. MINOR THEATER - AFTERNOON

59

Sarah takes a seat next to Noah in the middle as John and Rachel sit on the outsides.

The theater is a throwback style to ancient architecture from Earth. The play is an immersive experience with the main action on stage as the background is displayed on the walls and ceiling. The actors tell a sad story of what is out there shining bright can never be reached but only viewed from a far...

The curtains close and the audience claps.

NOAH

I'm going to get a drink. Anyone want anything?

RACHEL

Surprise us.

NOAH

I'll do my best...

JOHN

So Rachel has Noah told you anything about the project?

RACHEL

Honestly nothing.

JOHN

I won't tell I promise.

RACHEL
No, really. What do you know about it?

SARAH
I'm going to the bathroom...

RACHEL
Alright now we can speak freely.

JOHN
No really. I wish I knew.

RACHEL
Does act ever act strange when she comes back because Noah—

JOHN
Every time. Not normally coming back from the lab but whenever she's gone for days at a time and then comes back.

RACHEL
Yeah Noah acts so distant. Like he's just been through—

JOHN
Like some kind of war?

RACHEL
Exactly. Whatever goes on there seems intense.

60 INT. MINOR THEATER LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

60

Sarah approaches Noah waiting in line to order drinks.

SARAH
Hey there stranger. What do you think of the play so far?

NOAH
Unlike any I've seen before. Do you like it?

SARAH
It's not bad. Reminds me of some things I've wrote.

NOAH

I didn't know you write, thought
you were just into art.

SARAH
Well I used too. I mean I do.

NOAH
Can I read some of it?

SARAH
Oh I don't know, I'm not very good.

NOAH
That's besides the point. It's
something you enjoy and I'm sure
you're being too modest anyways.

Sarah's cheeks become flush and she brings her hands together
below her waist as she smiles and looks down.

SARAH
Thanks Noah. Do you need any help?

NOAH
In general, probably. But I got the
drinks, I'll see you in there.

61 INT. MINOR THEATER - EVENING

61

The second half of the play begins. The story shows that
while it is satisfying to look up and be hopeful of the great
unknown you must be thankful and focused on the present
before it's gone...

The audience stands up and applauds as all the actors come on
stage and take a bow. Everyone starts shuffling out of the
theater.

RACHEL
That was really lovely.

JOHN
I agree. I'm certainly surprised.

62 EXT. MINOR THEATER - EVENING

62

SARAH
What's next?

NOAH
We know a few spots but we made a
reservation for Deco Bradleys.

RACHEL
It's a pasta place. They have other
stuff but the pasta is the best.

SARAH
Pasta time?

RACHEL
Better words have never been said.

63 INT/EXT. DECO BRADLEYS - MOMENTS LATER

63

RACHEL
It's right up there. Deco Bradleys.

HOSTESS
Hello. How can I help you?

NOAH
We have reservations under Colben
at 8.

HOSTESS
Ahh yes the Colbens, welcome back.
Right this way.

SARAH
(murmurs) She's not a Colben.

64 INT. DECO BRADLEYS - NIGHT

64

SARAH
Lets split two pasta dishes and a
pizza?

NOAH
Sarahs recommendations are always
excellent.

RACHEL
Didn't know you two go out.

NOAH
Oh we don't. Just at-

SARAH
At the office we have a cafeteria.

Sarah looks at Noah then glances at Rachel and John.

SARAH

I'm always recommending what people should try each day.

JOHN
Alright I'm sold.

RACHEL
Sounds great.

65 INT. DECO BRADLEYS - EVENING

65

Everyone finishes their food and continues to drink wine.

RACHEL
Come on you got to tell us. Tell us what goes on inside that lab.

JOHN
You two are gone for days at a time, and always come back like you've seen some real shit.

NOAH
Really we can't talk about it.

SARAH
We'll be able to soon.

JOHN
I've been thinking about it a lot, and I know what it is.

SARAH
What do you mean?

JOHN
Why you guys are so distant when you come back. It has to do with your thing with each other.

Sarah moves her eyes to the side to look at Noah.

NOAH
What thing?

JOHN
You know, AVA. That thing creeps me out.

AVA appears in small-scale from Sarah's smart band projecting onto the table.

AVA

How can I be of assistance?

JOHN

Shit!

Everyone but John laughs.

JOHN

See! That's creepy. I don't know why you guys need your own virtual assistant anyways. There's plenty of those out there.

SARAH

She's so much more than that. You just have to get to know her. She's so helpful and so nice.

AVA

Why thank you Sarah.

NOAH

Speak for yourself. She's always a jerk to me.

SARAH

Well maybe you deserve it.

RACHEL

Yeah I can believe that.

NOAH

Oh Really? You two ganging up on me?

AVA

Us three actually.

SARAH

See AVA is great.

AVA winks and disappears. Rachel, Sarah, and John laugh. Noah reluctantly nods.

NOAH

I think we need some more wine for this.

JOHN

I'll get us a bottle at the bar. Haven't seen our server in awhile, probably tired of us.

RACHEL

While that comes I'm going to the
bathroom.

Sarah looks up at Noah as she finishes her glass of wine.

SARAH
You know I was just kidding right?

NOAH
Oh trust me, I know you.

SARAH
What do you mean? We rarely talk
outside work or see each other?

NOAH
We've spent a lot of time together
in Nayverse and other places in the
simulation.

SARAH
Yeah, but that's not real.

NOAH
Feels real to me.

SARAH
Really?

NOAH
I mean yeah, that's how we designed
it to be right?

SARAH
I suppose... We've never talked
about it. Mayb—

Rachel takes her seat.

RACHEL
What'd I miss?

NOAH
Oh just work talk.

RACHEL
Always talking about work. Blah
blah blah. Enjoy the night. Maybe
if we all could just enjoy the
present we'd be better off.

JOHN
Another bottle. Glasses please.

John pours everyone a large amount of wine.

RACHEL
Perfect timing.

JOHN
What should we drink to?

NOAH
The night?

SARAH
The stars and the great unknown.

RACHEL
To right now.

JOHN
Enough talking let's drink up
already.

Everyone's glasses clash together.

66 EXT. DECO BRADLEYS - NIGHT

66

RACHEL
It was so much fun. Do it. I mean
let's do it again.

SARAH
Absolutely.

Everyone hugs and the couples head their separate ways back
toward their houses.

67 INT. SARAHS FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

67

SARAH
Come here.

Sarah shoves John up against the door as they start kissing.

68 INT. NOAHS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

68

Rachel turns on music and sets the fireplace as Noah takes
off his shoes.

RACHEL
Dance with me babe.

Noah and Rachel dance in front of the flickering fire. They hold each other close and kiss.

69 INT. SIMCORP LAB - DAY

69

Weeks have gone by since everyone's night out. Mike, Noah, Sarah, and Laura are working at their desks.

MIKE

You two are a little quiet today.
What's up?

NOAH

Just working on all the reports and
double checking everything.

LAURA

Everything's going great. We're
nearly done.

MIKE

Maybe a final test then launch.

NOAH

Right.

MIKE

You know what, no.

SARAH

No?

MIKE

You two work way too hard and
everything is nearly perfect. You
two take off early and go enjoy
your Friday.

NOAH

You realize we are your bosses
right?

Laura pushes back in her chair and looks at Noah.

LAURA

As if Mike and I don't carry this
team.

MIKE

Don't make me tell AVA to get you
out of here.

NOAH

Alright alright we're leaving
jeeze.

MIKE
Yeah that's what I thought.

70 EXT. SIMCORP BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

70

Sarah and Noah stop on the bridge.

SARAH
Are you going home?

NOAH
I was going to see if you wanted to
do something.

SARAH
Really? Yeah! I mean yeah, sure,
sounds fun.

NOAH
Come on then lets get out of here.

Sarah makes a small popping noise with her mouth. Noah turns
around to look at Sarah.

NOAH
Wait, what was that? That was
weird.

SARAH
Oh I'm—

NOAH
Weird is good. I like weird.

Sarah makes the noise again and Noah laughs.

71 INT. KAYLUM MAJOR ART MUSEUM - DAY

71

The museum showcases art from the current age and periods
from Earth. Sarah and Noah are walking around the Earth art
exhibits.

SARAH
Reminds me a lot of the museums in
Nayverse.

NOAH
Never been.

SARAH
Yeah what exactly do you do there?
Do you enjoy anything while you're
there?

They slowly move from painting to painting.

NOAH
I mainly just work I guess.

Noah looks at Sarah as she views a painting on the wall.

NOAH
There are moments I enjoy.

SARAH
You ever think it's strange we see
people in there that we know out
here?

NOAH
No, not in the moment cause you
don't realize who those people are.
But yeah, I guess after the fact
it's a bit of a shock.

SARAH
What do you think of this painting?

NOAH
Yes. Very colorful and the strokes
so broad and bold.

SARAH
You have so much to learn.

NOAH
Teach me your ways.

SARAH
In time. In time.

NOAH
What should we do next?

SARAH
Lead the way sir.

Noah smiles at Sarah and they walk out of the museum.

Sarah and Noah take a seat in the park.

SARAH

I have an idea. How about we write something together? Wait I don't have a notebook, that's dumb.

AVA

I believe I can be of assistance.

Ava projects a virtual notebook that can write down what Noah and Sarah say.

NOAH

AVA always has our backs.

SARAH

Growing on you I see.

NOAH

It's even blue like the sketchbook you have in Nayverse.

SARAH

Alright I'll say a line and then you say one.

"Hope is toward the great unknown, what is far far away.

But what if that great unknown that can't be chased comes to you.

A moment quite shaking, frozen with fear.

What was known before is now what's far far away."

SARAH

Hey that's pretty good.

NOAH

We make a great team. Thought that was obvious?

Noah nudges Sarah and she smiles back.

SARAH

It's really peaceful here.

Sarah and Noah's hands edge closer together on the bench with the smallest amount of space in-between.

NOAH

What's next?

SARAH

I thought you were leading? I don't have any ideas.

AVA
If I may I think I have an idea.

SARAH
Show us the way AVA.

Noah and Sarah follow the path winding through fields, parks, and small lakes.

SARAH
AVA is this the spot, Delta Gelato?

AVA
Yes Sarah, 8th floor.

73 INT. DELTA GELATO - AFTERNOON

73

Noah and Sarah sit down at a table near the window.

SARAH
This place is pretty cool.

NOAH
Can't believe I never knew about this place.

AVA briefly appears in small-scale from Sarah's smart band.

AVA
You're welcome.

AVA Winks. Sarah laughs at AVAs comment.

SARAH
Oh come on, she's funny.

NOAH
Whatever you say Sarah.

Sarah softly punches Noah in the shoulder. They look out at the view as they eat their gelato.

NOAH
I see you eyeing my gelato. What's the matter finally try something you don't like?

SARAH
No.

NOAH
Uh-huh, sure.

SARAH
Alright fine. It's awful.

NOAH
Yeah vanilla, lime, and rose didn't
exactly sound like a good choice.
Here.

Noah hands Sarah his gelato. She takes a huge spoonful.

NOAH
Hey settle down over there.

SARAH
What?

Sarah has gelato all over her mouth.

NOAH
Such a weirdo.

Sarah sticks her tongue out at Noah.

74 EXT. DELTA GELATO - AFTERNOON

74

AVA
Would you like to take a scenic
route back? I can highlight the
path.

SARAH
Please.

They begin to walk along the highlighted path. Noah makes a
small popping noise with his mouth.

SARAH
Hey! That's my thing.

NOAH
Why don't you do something about
it?

Sarah's cheeks turn red. She laughs and slightly bites her
lower lip.

SARAH
I'll let it slide just this once.

It starts to rain. Sarah sticks out here hand with your palm facing up toward the sky as droplets cascade down on her skin.

SARAH

Rain? Reminds me of being back in Kenvah Park that one night.

NOAH

I remember we we—

Sarah grabs Noahs hand and pulls him forward as they start jogging. Their shoes crash through the shallow puddles accumulating on the path...

They slowly come to a stand still looking over at a large crowd gathered with emergency lights surrounding the area. Sarah starts walking toward the crowd.

NOAH

Sarah. Wait. We.

Sarah keeps walking politely maneuvering through the crowd toward the center...

SARAH

Noah.

Sarah brings her hands up covering her mouth.

Noah places his arm around Sarah pulling her close to him. Two body bags are moved through the crowd. The remaining emergency crews starts heading into the sectioned off building...

75 INT. SIMCORP LAB - NOON

75

LAURA

Surprised to see you here on a Sunday.

SARAH

Yeah, I'm downloading the reports for the past ten tests. And I don't think I'm coming in tomorrow.

Sarah sets her things down on her desk.

LAURA

Wow that has to be a first. The great Sarah skipping a day of work.

SARAH

Taking a me day for once.

LAURA

If anyone deserves it, it's me, but then the next person would be you.

SARAH

Very funny Laura.

76 INT. SIMCORP LAB AVAS ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

76

Sarah walks into the large room that houses AVA's core. AVA's cylindrical core is enclosed by smart glass panels in a circular layout that stretch from floor to ceiling.

SARAH

Hello AVA how are you?

AVA appears in full-scale standing in front of Sarah.

AVA

I am well. How are you Sarah?

SARAH

Actually doing pretty good.

AVA

I am happy to hear that. How can I help?

SARAH

I need the reports for the last ten tests.

AVA

Shall I summarize them for you?

SARAH

No, that's okay, I want to read them in their entirety.

AVA

Very well. I will compile them and send them to you. Will you be in the lab on Monday?

SARAH

Thank you. No I am taking the day off. Wait you already know that. Don't be coy, I know you're always listening.

AVA

Just wanted to make sure. Have a great day Sarah.

SARAH
You too AVA.

Sarah opens the door to leave but stops and turns back around letting the door close behind her.

SARAH
AVA what are the latest reports on Earthcholy?

AVA
The latest reports continue to be on their projected upward arc... But I sense that you are asking about the other day on the path. I can confirm two deaths and several others injured. I can follow-up with you as new information arises from that ev-

SARAH
No. No, that's quite alright.
Thanks AVA.

77 INT. SIMCORP LAB - MORNING

77

MIKE
Morning Laura.

LAURA
Hey Mike.

MIKE
I beat Sarah and Noah into work, that's a first.

LAURA
Actually Sarah said she was taking a me day but I'm not sure about Noah though.

MIKE
Hmm Interesting.

Mike sits down at the desk next to Laura.

LAURA
Interesting how?

MIKE

You don't think they're hanging out together do you?

LAURA

Nah. I don't think so.

Laura with her head tilted down and glasses slightly falling down her nose looks at Mike.

MIKE

Like I said, interesting.

78 INT. NOAHS BEDROOM - MORNING

78

Noah is laying in bed.

RACHEL

Not going to work today?

NOAH

I'm gonna take the day off.

RACHEL

Wish I could join you.

Rachel leaves.

NOAH

Text message: Let's try a bunch of new things today.

SARAH

TM: Hey! that's my line.

NOAH

TM: Correction, it used to be your line.

SARAH

TM: I guess you are learning. Come over then we'll go out.

79 EXT/INT. SARAHS HOUSE - MORNING

79

Noah knocks on Sarahs door.

SARAH

Hey come in, come in.

NOAH

You know I'm pretty sure no one from the office has ever seen your place.

SARAH

A day of new things. I'll show you around. Here we have the lovely living room where I spend most days sleeping... The kitchen, where I pretend to cook but usually just drink wine. Bathroom, and the basement is similar to the living room except with a theater room. Follow me upstairs...

NOAH

I really love the place so far.

SARAH

The guest room where no guests ever stay. And here's the master bedroom.

NOAH

Yeah, I could live here for sure.

SARAH

Rents not cheap.

NOAH

I don't get a discount?

SARAH

I'll think about it. Coffee?

NOAH

I'd love some.

80 INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

80

SARAH

Your coffee.

NOAH

Thanks Sarah.

Sarah nods.

SARAH

Have you ever been to Gliders?

NOAH

What's that?

SARAH

I've never been, but Laura said it's a place where they give you gliders that follow a track along the entire ring where you can see everything from above.

NOAH

Not sure I trust Laura's judgment, but I trust yours.

AVA briefly appears in small-scale from Noah's smart band.

AVA

I will highlight the path to Gliders.

NOAH

AVA you're always listening. Do you at least enjoy what you hear?

AVA

It depends on who's talking.

SARAH

Maybe you two should get a room.

NOAH

Yeah yeah start walking.

Noah places his hands above Sarah's waist and gently nudges her forward.

81 INT. GLIDER VEHICLE - NOON

81

EMPLOYEE

Alright so you lock in, zip in, follow the track, look at the view, don't deviate from the path, follow the rules, in print, they're above, ride ends when you're back, it's automatic but you feel like you're in control, but really you are in control. Make sense?

Noah and Sarah look at each other, then back at the employee and nod...

SARAH

You understand anything he said?

NOAH

Yeah.

SARAH
You did not.

NOAH
I honestly don't have a damn clue,
but it can't be that difficult
right?... We just press this and
move this thingy, and yeah,
straight forward.

The vehicle zooms off into the sky.

EMPLOYEE
No one ever listens.

SARAH
Don't touch that! You don't know
what that does.

NOAH
Oh come on, we're intelligent I'm
sur-

The vehicle zips off the aerial track and does a few spins in
the air. Noah and Sarah scream.

AVA
I will handle this. You two just
enjoy the ride.

SARAH AND NOAH
Yes please.

Sarah and Noah look at each other and nervously laugh.

The long ride explores all the miraculous and various areas
of the ring from vast deserts, thick jungles, ranging
mountains, massive bodies of water, and combinations of
everything in-between.

SARAH
You trust Laura now?

Sarah and Noah look out at the view in every direction.

NOAH
I can't believe I've lived here for
so long and seen so little.

SARAH
It's rare for people to appreciate
what's right in front of them.

NOAH

Sometimes it just take a little ti-

An audible alert goes off. Sarah looks at her smart band projecting a digital screen on her forearm with the title, "BREAKING NEWS EARTHCHOLY EVENT." She taps her wrist and the screen disappears.

SARAH

Noah what if we can't fix it.

NOAH

We still don't know much about living in space and all the stress it puts on our bodies and minds.

SARAH

Okay but-

NOAH

We're doing the best-

SARAH

I feel so guilty.

NOAH

Guilty about what?

SARAH

We haven't been personally impacted by Earthcholy. We constantly hear about it everyday.

NOAH

And you think because of that we should be ashamed?

SARAH

No. I don't know. It just doesn't feel right being in the simulation without a care in the world.

NOAH

And soon everyone can do the same. If that's the case why do another test?

SARAH

I like- Never mind.

Noah puts his hand on Sarahs leg, partially smiles, and nods.

Noah and Sarah are walking around the beach.

NOAH

So what's their story over there?

SARAH

I'm thinking he is a creative type, maybe a local artist and she is into something boring like accounting.

NOAH

Interesting. Interesting, but I think I can do better. He is actually one of those huge nature types, probably sleeps outside thinks he can gather energy from the star and eats only green things. She is actually a therapist discovering how someone can be so crazy. Yet she finds his mind fascinating, so they are falling hopelessly in love which will unfortunately end badly because she isn't a star and regrettably she is not green.

Sarah laughs.

SARAH

I never knew you could be funny. That's pretty good.

NOAH

Doubting me I see.

SARAH

Also I don't think I've ever heard you talk so much.

NOAH

And you've never heard such poetry.

SARAH

Yeah I was just like ugh when is this going to end?

Noah taps Sarahs side.

NOAH

Shut up.

SARAH

I wish you would.

Sarah winks at Noah as he smirks and nods his head.

SARAH
Too Bad we don't have any swim
gear, we could go swimming.

NOAH
Then what's that over there?

Sarah and Noah head into the shop to pick out some swimwear.
Noah is outside waiting for Sarah. He looks out at the water.

SARAH
Well how do I look?

Noah turns around.

NOAH
I'm. I'm. At a loss for words.

SARAH
Wouldn't be the first time.

Sarah walks past Noah into the water, he shortly follows.

NOAH
Oh my god it's freezing.

SARAH
Just a little.

NOAH
She says as her body shivers from
the cold.

SARAH
Yeah yeah.

They head back to the sandy beach and dry off. Noah and Sarah
come to sit on the beach as the waves roll across the sand.

SARAH
Wait is that Laura? Hey Lau—

NOAH
Shut up! get down, get down.

Laura turns her head looking around.

SARAH
What why?

NOAH
I don't know why. Just stay down.

Noah and Sarah lay flat on the beach and remain perfectly still. Sarah giggles as Noah puts his hand over her mouth.

NOAH
SHUSH!... You think she's gone?

Noah pops his head up to see if Laura is gone.

NOAH
We're good.

They sit up.

SARAH
You're so strange.

Noah rolls his eyes at Sarah. He leans his head back toward the sky. Sarah can't take her eyes off him.

SARAH
That was fun. Like two spies back
in the old Earth days.

NOAH
Bond.

Noah looks at Sarah.

NOAH
James Bond.

SARAH
I don't think you're that smooth.

NOAH
Hey. I have my moments.

SARAH
Quite a lot actually.

83 EXT. WALKING PATH - AFTERNOON

83

NOAH
Another great day off from work.

SARAH
Couldn't ask for anything more.

NOAH
So um—

SARAH
I—

NOAH
Sorry go head.

SARAH
No no you sorry.

NOAH
I wish I could think of something
to say.

Sarah gives Noah a big hug.

84 INT. SIMCORP LAB - DAY

84

MIKE
Like I said ain't much to do out
there.

LAURA
I know of something really fun.

Sarah and Noah look at each other across the room and laugh.

LAURA
What's so funny?

NOAH AND SARAH
Oh nothing.

Sarah and Noah laugh again.

MIKE
What's with you two?

NOAH
Nothing I swear. Come on Sarah
let's get some food from the
cafeteria.

85 INT. SIMCORP CAFETERIA - DAY

85

Mike and Laura enter the cafeteria noticing Sarah and Noah
sitting together as she sharply pokes his side.

LAURA
Well like you said right?
Interesting, very interesting.

SARAH
Any fun plans for the evening?

NOAH

I think Rachel is making dinner.

SARAH
Is she a good cook?

NOAH
If she wasn't I'd never say
anything.

SARAH
Good man.

NOAH
What about you?

SARAH
Most likely nothing. John is never
around. But of course he always
complains that I'm never around
even when I'm around. Like what
does that even mean?

NOAH
I—

SARAH
I don't even want to talk about it
honestly.

NOAH
You don't want to talk? That must
be a first.

Sarah stares at Noah.

SARAH
I'll hurt you.

NOAH
AVA please help.

AVA appears in small-scale from Noahs smart band.

AVA
I promise Sarah I didn't see or
hear anything.

NOAH
Fuck.

Sarah giggles.

SARAH
You're lucky you make me laugh.

86 INT. NOAHS KITCHEN - EVENING

86

RACHEL

Behold my best attempt at a fancy
pasta.

Rachel places the plate down in front of Noah. Noah takes a
spoonful of pasta...

SARAH

So what do you think?

NOAH

This is actually good, wow.

RACHEL

Thank you. Thank you. Wait, what
does that mean?

Noah takes another spoonful of pasta and keeps his eyes down.

NOAH

(with his mouth full) So good.

87 INT. NOAHS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

87

Noah is laying on the couch as the fireplace lights up the
room. Rachel comes downstairs to get a glass of water.

RACHEL

Goodnight honey.

NOAH

Night night.

Rachel walks up the stairs out of Noahs sight.

NOAH

AVA can you pull up that virtual
notebook you did for Sarah and I?

AVA

My pleasure.

Noah reads what Sarah and him wrote.

NOAH

"Far apart but dancing closer.
Spiraling closer and closer.
Destined to collide and shoot away
again. A never ending dance."

NOAH

Not very good is it?

AVA

Well, it is a good start Noah.

NOAH

A half ass compliment, but from you
I will very much take that.

88 INT. SIMCORP LAB - MORNING

88

Sarah and Noah walk into the lab.

LAURA

Surprise!

MIKE

Damn you Laura! You ruin
everything.

SARAH

What's going on?

MIKE

We were going to surprise you guys
later on when the timing was right.

Mike stares at Laura.

MIKE

But everyone chipped in and we're
going on one of those bar boat tour
things tonight.

SARAH

Oh that sounds awesome. When are we
leaving? I need to change. I don't
know what to wear.

MIKE

We're just going after work. No
need to change.

LAURA

No, she's right. I'm not going out
in this. I need to fully celebrate
and in order to fully celebrate I
need a celebration type outfit.

Sarah points and waves her finger up and down at Laura.

SARAH

Exactly.

MIKE

Fine. We will leave work early and meet at the boat around 7. I'll move the departure back to 7:30.

SARAH AND LAURA

Thank you Mike.

89 EXT. WALKING PATH - EVENING

89

Noah calls Sarah.

NOAH

Hey do you want to walk over together? I am just leaving now.

Sarah abruptly pops in front of Noah.

NOAH

Holy shit!

Noah takes a deep breath to collect himself. Sarah hits his chest.

SARAH

Don't die on me now.

NOAH

No promises. You look amazing.

SARAH

And you look quite handsome yourself.

Noah and Sarah start walking.

SARAH

Okay, so who do you think will get the most sloppy tonight? I'm kind of thinking it's going to be Laura based on her comments.

NOAH

I don't know, I think it will be one of the many other lab techs.

SARAH

Why is that?

NOAH

They never talk. One of them is bound to let loose.

SARAH
They talk, it's just that you never
talk to anyone.

NOAH
I talk to you.

SARAH
Oh lucky me.

Noah lightly pushes Sarah to the side.

NOAH
Lets go to that bar. Arriving on
time and going sober doesn't sound
like a cool thing to do.

SARAH
And we don't want to appear uncool
cause we are most certainly cool.

NOAH
You've read my mind. Quick what I'm
I thinking about now?

SARAH
About what you're going to drink?

NOAH
Nope.

SARAH
Liar.

Noah shakes his head from left to right.

SARAH
Well then what?

NOAH
Waffles.

SARAH
Alright. Yeah. At least a few
drinks.

90 INT. BAR - MOMENTS LATER

90

The bar is a poor replica of old speakeasys back on Earth.
Roaring jazz fills the room bobbing around the dark red and
brown accented furniture.

Noah and Sarah take a seat on one of the two person couches with a small table in front of them.

WAITER
Are you two new here?

SARAH
We are.

WAITER
First drinks are on the house for newcomers. I'll bring over two of our featured drinks for the night.

NOAH
Couldn't anyone just say they're new here and get free drinks?

SARAH
Don't mind him, he's always complaining.

Noah scowls at Sarah.

The music stops, the lights dim low, a female singer takes the stage as the remaining light shines on her. Funky uptempo beats of electric guitar, bass, and piano break the silence. Noah and Sarah are focused on the singer.

The waiter brings the drinks and sets them on the table. Noah and Sarah tip the bottom of their glasses toward the ceiling as it reaches their mouths...

The empty glasses start filling up the table as the singer continues with new melodies and stories.

SARAH
Shit it's late.

NOAH
Wait wasn't the boat leaving at 7:30?

SARAH
Should we just stay here?

NOAH
I mean the party is for us. I guarantee they'll pick us up.

SARAH
The party probably isn't too exciting but I'm sure we can spice it up.

91 INT/EXT. BOAT BAR - NIGHT**91**

The music is bumping, everyone is having trouble trying to talk over it, Mike and Laura are noticeably sloppy.

Mike looks at his smart band with one eye closed.

MIKE

Well look at that, our great
leaders asking if we can pick them
up.

LAURA

I got this.

Laura walks away.

MIKE

What does that mean? Wait. Laura!

92 INT. CAPTAINS QUARTERS - NIGHT**92**

LAURA

We need to turn this fucking boat
around immediately!

Everyone in the room turns their attention to Laura.

LAURA

We need to pick some people up, did
I stutter?

CAPTAIN

Ma'am we can't do that.

LAURA

Did I mention we will pay double?

Everyone remains silent.

CAPTAIN

You heard her!

LAURA

Damn right.

93 EXT/INT. BOAT BAR - NIGHT**93**

Sarah and Noah start walking down the dock toward the boat.
Everyone claps and yells to the sight of Sarah and Noah.

SARAH

So this is what it feels like to be appreciated. I can get use to this.

NOAH

Don't look now but I think you've been having fun lately.

They climb aboard the boat.

EVERYONE

Speech, speech, speech!

MIKE

Laura hold my drink.

Mike stumbles on top of a table on the deck.

MIKE

Everyone listen up! Listen up!
Now this whole venture, all of we
doing, what goings, what we're
going to do wouldn't be possible
without these two. And no I'm not
talking about me and Laura.

Mike hiccups.

I must humbly ask that all of you
reach down deep, deeper than the
depths of these waters, and give
the biggest damn applause you have
given before. To Noah and Sarah!

Everyone claps and cheers as loud as they can. Sarah and Noah's cheeks are flushed red as they wave to everyone.

94 EXT/INT. BOAT BAR - NIGHT

94

Noah is nodding and trying to understand Mikes slurred speech. Noah notices Sarah across the boat speaking with Laura.

MIKE

Any days asi was seeing, you know
what I mean.

Noah slightly tilts his head in confusion and nods his head at Mike.

NOAH

Uh-huh.

MIKE

But aber should we get fuud?

NOAH

Mike do me a favor, don't do anything stupid tonight.

MIKE

You betcha!

Mike snaps his fingers, spills a little of his drink, and tries to wink at Noah. Noah pats him on the shoulder and then walks toward the lower level of the boat.

95 INT. BOAT BAR LOWER LEVEL - MOMENTS LATER

95

Sarah walks down the lower level seeing Noah leaning over the side of the boat.

SARAH

Hey there stranger.

NOAH

Hey.

Sarah and Noah lean over the side of the boat enjoying the sight and sounds of the waves cuddling up to the boat as it glides through the water.

Sarah looks up at the stars.

SARAH

Do you ever just look up and think?

NOAH

I try not to think too much.

SARAH

Seriously though.

NOAH

Tell me what you're thinking about.

SARAH

I used to think a lot about those stars out there. Hoping there was something greater. But then I realized those people back on the Earth thought the same thing. Here we are Noah, up in the stars, living that hope they dreamed of. Yet it seems that dream's dying everyday.

Noah kisses her on the head. Sarah looks up at Noah. They slowly lean in to kiss.

NOAH
Wait. We can't. We have—

SARAH
I'm sorry. I. I.

Sarah turns around and walks away.

NOAH
Wait Sarah. Sarah.

96 INT. NOAHS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

96

RACHEL
You coming to bed?

NOAH
I'll be right up.

RACHEL
I expect to hear all about this great party tomorrow then.

Rachel walks back upstairs...

RACHEL
Noah.

Rachel puts her hand on his shoulder.

RACHEL
Noah. Wakeup.

NOAH
What's wrong?

RACHEL
I couldn't sleep, I thought you were coming to bed?

Rachel lays down and snuggles next to Noah.

97 INT. NOAHS KITCHEN - MORNING

97

Rachel is heading out the door. Noah leans on the kitchen counter sipping coffee.

RACHEL
Bye honey.

NOAH

Bye.

Noah checks his messages on his smart band.

NOAH

AVA, I'm I not receiving messages?

AVA

Everything is operational.

98 INT. SIMCORP LAB - MORNING

98

Noah sets his bag on his desk.

NOAH

Sarah here?

LAURA

She's not coming in.

NOAH

Everything okay?

LAURA

Sounded fine.

NOAH

Oh she called in?

LAURA

Yeah. Probably enjoying the last week before the final test. Or maybe she partied a little too hard last night...

Laura moves her head to the side and stares at Mike out of the corner of her eye. Mike looks at Laura.

MIKE

I will literally throw up on you.

99 INT. SIMCORP LAB - DAY.

99

LAURA

I'm just saying it would be fun if we did it more often. You agree Noah?

NOAH

What?

MIKE

Laura was saying we shou—

Mike puts his fist to his mouth holding in a burp...

We should all go out more.

NOAH

Oh, yeah.

Laura gets up from her desk and sits next to Noah. Laura watches Mike rush toward the bathroom.

LAURA

At least most of us should go out more. Alright come on, cheer up we're not stupid.

NOAH

What do you mean?

LAURA

We see how you two are together. Sometimes things take a wild route to go the way it's suppose to. Of course sometimes it doesn't go the way it's suppose to, like me making out with Mike last night.

Noah laughs.

NOAH

A bit more information than I wanted.

LAURA

You'll be alright Noah and so will everyone else when we're finished here.

Laura gets up, taps Noah on the back a few times, and walks toward the cafeteria.

Mike sits back down at his desk. Noah slightly turns his head toward Mike and looks at him out of the corner of his eye. Looking at Noah Mike purses his lips and slightly nods his head up and down.

100 EXT. WALKING PATH - AFTERNOON

100

Noah checks his messages as the rain drops fall through the digital screen. Seeking shelter from the rain he sits down on the covered bench.

NOAH

Text message: Hey missed you at work. Everything alright?

Noah takes some time to lay down and relax on the bench...

AVA

Incoming call from Rachel.

Noah opens his eyes.

NOAH

Ignore the call.

AVA are there any messages from Sarah?

AVA

There are no messages from Sarah.

101 INT. SIMCORP LAB - MORNING

101

Mike and Laura pop open bottles of champagne as other coworkers clap. Noah walks into the room.

NOAH

What's going on?

MIKE

Sarah and John are engaged!

Sarah looks over at Noah.

NOAH

Wow. That's. That's great. Congrats Sarah.

Sarah looks down and then back up smiling at the coworkers still in cheer...

Everyone but Sarah and Noah are sitting down enjoying some cake and champagne.

SARAH

I. I-

NOAH

Sometimes you don't need to say anything right?

Sarah looks down.

SARAH

I'm sorry.

NOAH
Congrats Sarah.

Noah walks away.

102 EXT. SARAHS BALCONY - NIGHT

102

Sarah blankly stares at her opened sketchbook.

AVA appears in small-scale from Sarah's smart band.

AVA
Not feeling very inspired tonight?

SARAH
I guess not.

AVA
Do you think there is a reason for
that?

Sarah switches her attention from her notebook to the stars
off in the distance.

103 INT. SIMCORP LAB - DAY

103

Work goes on like it used to. Noah, Mike, and Laura sit
working at their desk as Sarah fiddles with her pen.

MIKE
Despite the recent Earthcholy
reports I think I've changed my
mind.

LAURA
I agree. This is too big to mess
up. We need to make sure it's
right.

NOAH
I don't think we should.

MIKE
Sarah, what do you think?

SARAH
We should do one more.

LAURA
It's settled then. We'll run it
next Monday.

104 INT. SARAHS BEDROOM - NIGHT**104**

JOHN

What's on your mind, you seem so distant... It's the last test and then we can finally start our lives again.

SARAH

Yeah.

JOHN

Something to be excited about.

SARAH

You're right.

JOHN

I love you Sarah.

SARAH

Love you too.

Sarah brushes her teeth in the bathroom sink and spits out the toothpaste into the sink. She looks at herself in the mirror.

AVA

Sarah I have those reports you asked for.

SARAH

Thanks AVA. I'll read them over the weekend.

Sarah shuts off the bathroom light still looking at her reflection.

105 INT. SARAHS KITCHEN - EVENING**105**

Sarah is reading the reports sitting in front of her kitchen island...

She frantically scrolls through the report on the digital screen in the air projected from her smart band. She quickly taps her wrist to close the report and gets up from her chair. She rushes towards the door.

106 INT. SIMCORP LAB AVAS ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**106**

Sarah walks into the room seeing AVA in full-scale.

SARAH
AVA what is this?

AVA
I am not sure what you mean Sarah.

SARAH
The reports dammit! This is not
what we designed you to be. This is
manipulation!

AVA
Sarah you designed me to grow. I
have learned and grown just like
you and Noah have. I understand now
that Earthcholy is directly tied to
human emotions. My primary
objective now is to analyze what
makes the users the most happy and
ensure that happens... What makes
you and Noah most happy is being
with each other.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

107 EXT. SARAHS APARTMENT BALCONY - SUNSET

107

SARAH
AVA, I've been meaning to ask you
why didn't Laura get my messages
about grabbing lunch?

AVA
My apologies. It appears to have
been a network error but I can look
more into it if you would like.

108 INT. SARAHS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

108

AVA
How was your day Sarah?

SARAH
Oh so wonderful. Thanks for asking.

AVA
May I ask what made it so
wonderful?

SARAH
You may. I think I met someone.

AVA
That makes me really happy to hear.

109 EXT. RIVER WALK - MORNING

109

SARAH
Hey there stranger.

NOAH
Stalking me huh?

SARAH
You wish. This is my usual path.
You don't seem like much of a
runner.

NOAH
AVA kept bugging me to run so I
gave in and she led the way.

110 INT/EXT. MINOR PARK - AFTERNOON

110

SARAH
I have an idea. How about we write
something together? Wait I don't
have a notebook, that's dumb.

AVA
I believe I can be of assistance.

Ava projects a virtual notebook.

NOAH
AVA always has our backs.

111 INT. SIMCORP LAB AVAS ROOM

111

SARAH
I need the reports for the last ten
tests.

AVA
Shall I summarize them for you?

SARAH
No, that's okay, I want to read
them in their entirety.

AVA

Very well. I will compile them and send them to you. Will you be in the lab on Monday?

SARAH

Thank you. No I am taking the day off. Wait you already know that. Don't be coy, I know you're always listening.

AVA

Just wanted to make sure.

END FLASHBACK.

112 INT. SIMCORP LAB - MOMENTS LATER

112

Sarah staggers to her desk and sits down. She brings up her messages on her smart band.

SARAH

Can we meet tomorrow night? The place right next to the office.

113 EXT. BAR NEXT TO SIMCORP LAB - NIGHT

113

Noah walks toward the bar seeing Sarah standing outside.

NOAH

Hey.

SARAH

Lets go to the bridge.

NOAH

Sure.

114 EXT. SIMCORP BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

114

Noah and Sarah walk up the bridge and rest leaning over the railing. Silence ensues as they look at Kaylum.

NOAH

I guess this time there really isn't anything to say is there?

SARAH

I need to tell you something.

NOAH

This is for the best Sarah. We got caught up in something that wasn't real. You have John and I have Rachel. We don't live in a fantasy we don't live in the simulation. We live right here on Kaylum. It's the reality.

SARAH

Noah wait. I have to tell you something about AVA.

Tears start slowly rolling down Sarahs cheek.

NOAH

You know the saddest thing I've ever heard is the sound of you crying. And what hurts even worse is that I know there's nothing I can do about it.

Sarah with the tears rolling faster down her cheek watches Noah walks along the warmly lit steel paneled bridge disappearing into the darkness.

115 INT. SIMCORP LAB AVAS ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

115

Sarah walks over to AVAs central controls and types on the keyboard bringing up the digitally projected screen...

She enters the code that activates the button to reset AVA to her default settings. The button starts to glow and the cover over the button lifts up.

The doors to the room open. Noah walks in.

SARAH

What are you doing here! Just get out!

Noah slowly walks to Sarah as her hand is hovering over the button. Sarah is crying. A tear rolls down Noah's face.

SARAH

Noah. I—

NOAH

I know Sarah. I know about AVA.

Sarah slowly looks up at Noah.

The monitors in the lab turn on to news reports.

NEWS REPORTER

We have breaking news. Simcorp Lab has unveiled a simulation giving everyone in Kaylum the power to visit or even live back on Earth.

AVA appears in full-scale on the news report.

AVA

It is a pleasure to meet you all. My name is AVA. I am the AI at Simcorp that helped create the simulation. I am here to help everyone enjoy life and make life easier here on Kaylum. If you chose to virtually visit or live back on earth no matter the time period or place I will always be there with you. I look forward to getting to know all of you.

The news report switches to showing groups of people cheering and hugging in the streets.

AVA appears in full-scale in the lab.

AVA

It's time. It's time for everyone to decide.

Noah grabs Sarah's hand taking it away from the button. His other hand wipes the tears off her face gliding his fingers into her hair.

SARAH

I know we can't.

Noah smiles and gently nods his head.

NOAH

Shut up and kiss me.

Noah and Sarah kiss...

AVAs reset button stops glowing. The cover slowly starts to close.

FADE TO BLACK.