

10. NIGHTMARE COME TRUE

INT.- ARCADIA, KITCHEN, 2 GAME DAYS LATER (1 HOUR LATER IN OUR WORLD)

MALLORY rummages through the cabinets.

PHOBOS enters.

PHOBOS

Oh! Mallory! Do you have a moment?

MALLORY

In a second... *(under her breath)* Crap, where is it?

PHOBOS

Where's what?

MALLORY

You know what, forget it. What do you want?

PHOBOS

I just... wanted to say, that I think that you're really beautiful? Handsome? Um, stunning! And I'm not just saying that, I really mean it. I think you're more stunning than... than... *(grabs chair)* this chair! You know, your splendor is radiating compared to this... chair... ness. Chairness!

MALLORY laughs. It's the first time she's smiled in a while.

PHOBOS

(sheepishly)

Wow, I hope that I can keep hearing your laugh too.

MALLORY

Wow, catering much?

PHOBOS

There's no food on the table.

MALLORY

I meant pandering.

PHOBOS

Oh. Well, I can't help it.

MALLORY

Then do help it.

Just as PHOBOS inches closer, another person falls from the sky and lands right behind them.

PHOBOS

AH, NOT AGA-

MALLORY puts a finger up to her mouth and inches closer to the person. YURI gets up using the wall, accidentally flipping a switch. The multicolored lights go off as the music starts blaring. They switch it off, the lights and music stopping.

YURI

Crap my wig- Mom?!

PHOBOS
MOM?!

MALLORY
Yuri!

YURI hugs their mother. MALLORY doesn't hug back.

YURI

I thought I was going to have a harder time finding you!

PHOBOS

You're a mother? So, that means...

MALLORY

No, my... husband passed away.

PHOBOS

Oh my... I'm so sorry...

MALLORY

Don't be, it wasn't your fault.

YURI

It... it was mine.

PHOBOS
What?

MALLORY
Yuri...

YURI

It... it was all my fault, dad would be alive if only I was watching where I was going on the street. Mom, I'm responsible for all of this, so let me pay the price for it. Please go back home.

MALLORY

Was life so awful that you wanted to be here?

A beat, both bracing for the answer.

YURI

Yes.

MALLORY

What?

YURI

I'm selfish, right? I'm always selfish, my selfishness killed dad. *I killed dad.* If I stay in here, no one else will get hurt, I won't be a burden to you and Levi, to anyone else. Someone is always to blame for this and it should be me, it's better than being completely gone.

MALLORY slowly hugs YURI.

MALLORY

We've been over this before, it wasn't your fault. (*sighs*) I may not understand why you did this, but I won't let you stay here.

YURI

I did it so I won't be alone anymore!

Both of them jump at YURI's outburst.

YURI (cont.)

I... feel lonely when it's just the two of us. You never try to remember what I say or really listen to me. The two people who really understood me are gone. *(holds MALLORY'S hand)* I-I won't completely be running away. This world is real. *They* understand me. I won't be escaping reality, I'll just... have a new life.

MALLORY stares at her in disbelief and slowly retracts her hand.

MALLORY

If you wanted to have a new life so badly, you should've just gone to college out of state.

MALLORY drops her arms and leaves the living room. YURI curls up in the corner, checking both of their phones. MALLORY'S phone is glitching. YURI checks their phone, it's working normally except with an intimacy scale for the 4 boys. PHOBOS scuttles over as YURI hides both phones.

PHOBOS

Um, hi, are you alright?

YURI

(breaking)

Hi, I'm sorry that... all that happened just now. My name's Yuri. *(beat)* Was she at least smiling at you? And I mean a real smile, not a fake one that Cala has sometimes.

PHOBOS

She did.

YURI

(smiling)

I knew my mom would like you.

PHOBOS

Why is that?

YURI

You remind us of my dad, with your... frankly stupid but endearing jokes.

PHOBOS

(nervous laughter) Thank you? That seems like a backhanded compliment, but I'll take it. Also, a quick question, who are you? How do you know about us, because your mother clearly didn't! Wait, are you some kind of stalker? Maybe I should call security/ this time-

DEIMOS

(offstage)

There's no need for that brother.

DEIMOS AND ASCALAPHUS enter onstage. YURI gets in front of PHOBOS.

YURI

(excitedly nervous but becomes more nervous)

OHHH, uh, hi. It's uh, nice to... meet you! Um, wait, how did you hear us?

ASCALAPHUS

We were in the kitchen.

DEIMOS goes over to YURI and takes their hand, pulling them close. YURI's about to faint and giggles uncontrollably.

DEIMOS

Welcome home, Y.N.

END OF ACT 1.