

VERVE

# B R E A T H E

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BREATHING... in... out... in...

A MAN'S FACE inside the helmet of an Environmental Suit. A tube connected to the chin of his visor leads to a backpack.

This is JOEL (40) and he's working hard on something that we don't see. Sweat drips off his nose, dotting the visor.

We don't know where he is, but there is a REDDISH hue to the atmosphere surrounding him.

TILT DOWN to a push broom in his hands as he clears dust and dirt off of a solar panel. He finishes, moves on to another.

BLEEP-BLEEP... BLEEP-BLEEP...

Joel looks at a digital O<sub>2</sub> gauge on his forearm. **20 min.** He silences the alert, then speaks into his helmet's headset.

JOEL/HEADSET

Two minutes, then let's head inside.

WIDEN OUT to reveal...

Joel on the roof of a BARN with a bank of SOLAR PANELS. He gazes off and we get our first look at...

A SUN SCORCHED LAND. The ground is all dirt and rock. The sky carries a red haze. And there isn't a single soul in sight.

200 feet from the barn is a burnt, collapsing FARMHOUSE. An entire wall is gone, exposing a ramshackle kitchen.

A wrought iron sign reads, *Garrett's Farm*.

It's like someone built a farm on Mars...

But this is not another planet...

This is Earth.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - THAT MOMENT**

MIKE (60's, fit and able), also in an EV Suit, rummages through a bookshelf in a dilapidated bedroom.

JOEL/HEADSET

Dad, you copy or what?

Mike speaks into his headset mic.

MIKE/HEADSET

Quit your yapping. Perimeter's secure.  
I ducked into the house for something.

JOEL/HEADSET

Dad, I hate when you wander off  
like this?

MIKE/HEADSET

Consider it practice for when I'm  
old and senile.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Joel CHUCKLES, looks at the farmhouse, and sees his father through the bedroom window.

JOEL/HEADSET

Funny. What're you doing in there?

**INT. FARMHOUSE/UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Mike finds what he's looking for. An old, frayed book, *The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson*.

MIKE/HEADSET

Just getting something for Meg.

Mike pockets the book, strolls to the window, and watches Joel dust off the last of the solar panels.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Joel places his hand over an EXHAUST PIPE, making sure air is blowing out. The pipe travels down the side of the barn wall and disappears into the dirt ground.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - THAT MOMENT**

Mike heads down the hall when -- CRACK -- the floor CAVES IN underneath him, he PLUMMETS through the wood floor.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Mike CRASHES through the ceiling in the living room, but his foot gets wedged between two wood beams.

As his upper body continues to fall, he SMACKS his helmet, the O<sub>2</sub> tube attached to his helmet SEVERES. OXYGEN HISSES OUT.

With his foot stuck, Mike dangles upside down from the ceiling. His O<sub>2</sub> gauge rapidly sinks, **5 min...4 min...3 min...**

MIKE/HEADSET

Joel! JOEL!

All Mike hears is STATIC and realizes his headset is damaged.

**EXT. BARN - THAT MOMENT**

Joel is climbing down a ladder.

JOEL/HEADSET

Dad, you coming or what?

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Frantic, Mike tries to yank his leg free.

His O<sub>2</sub> gauge reads **1 min.** He inhales two huge lungfuls of air just as, **0 min.** The OXYGEN ALARM inside his helmet BLARES.

**OUTSIDE**

By the barn, Joel dusts himself off. When he doesn't get a response through his headset, he heads toward the farmhouse.

**INSIDE**

OUT OF OXYGEN, Mike GASPS FOR AIR, his face is TURNING RED, his eyes are starting to BULGE.

**OUTSIDE**

Joel jogs across the front yard.

**INSIDE**

The VEINS in Mike's forehead look like they're going to BURST through his skin when --

Joel runs into the living room and sees his dad, swaying back and forth in a PANIC, ASPHYXIATING.

JOEL

OH GOD. DAD!

Joel jumps for his dad's trembling hands, but they're out of reach. Joel SPRINTS up the staircase.

**ON MIKE**

HIS LIPS ARE TURNING BLUE -- BLOOD VESSELS BURSTS IN THE WHITES OF HIS EYES -- HIS EYEBALLS ROLL BACK IN HIS HEAD --

**UPSTAIRS HALLWAY**

Joel grabs his dad's legs, dislodges his foot from the beams. He wrests Mike out of the hole and rolls him onto his back.

Mike's BLOODSHOT EYES are WIDE and VACANT. PURPLE SPLOTCHES mar his face and neck from INTERNAL HEMORRHAGES.

Joel just stares at his father, nothing he can do at this point. Joel slumps forward, onto his dad's body.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

We're now in a dimly lit, windowless basement with cement walls and a low ceiling. *We don't know where we are yet.*

In the middle of this room is a couch and coffee table, which faces a television set propped up on a dresser.

Metal shelving racks line the walls, full of meticulously labeled storage bins: batteries, blankets, M.R.E's.

One shelf has a MONITOR, which displays night vision surveillance footage of a stairwell.

There are FOUR DOORS, one on each wall. Three of the doors are normal bedroom doors. The other is a HEAVY, SUBMARINE DOOR WITH THREE DEADBOLTS.

AMY (40), hair pulled back in a tight ponytail. Crisp white T-shirt tucked into jeans. She's staring at a notebook of math problems. With a red pen, she draws an "X" on an equation.

Waiting across from Amy is MEGAN (18). Long, unruly hair. Her baggy BUFFALO BILLS sweatshirt and sweatpants are wrinkled. She subconsciously bites her nails.

AMY

Meg, that's distracting *and* unhygienic.

Megan glares at Amy, stops. Amy goes back to the notebook.

AMY (CONT'D)

Good work. Fix this.

Amy slides the book to Megan, who looks at the equation.

MEGAN

Wait, but my answer's correct.

AMY

But you didn't show your work.

MEGAN

Mom, gimme a break.

AMY

Meg, it's important for me to see how you got there?

MEGAN

Yeah, cause I cheated.  
(re: the empty room)  
Off who?

AMY

Off 'whom.' English class is next.

Megan MUTTERS something under her breath, starts correcting her work, and biting her nails. Clearly there is some tension between these two. Amy is about to protest when --

We HEAR a mechanical *CLICK* at the submarine door. The locks turn in unison. A *WHOOSH* of suction as the door opens...

Megan looks up with a smile as her dad, Joel, lumbers inside. But her joy vanishes when he shuts the door.

MEGAN

Where's grandpa?

He removes his helmet, takes a big inhalation of air. When they see the despair in his face, they know the awful truth.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy, Megan and Joel sit at the table, mourning. Even in this moment of loss, Amy refuses to slouch. But the sadness in her eyes can't be hidden. Megan wipes her tears on her sleeve.

JOEL

I have to bury him tomorrow.

AMY

Of course... I'll help you.

JOEL

No, I'm taking him to my mother.

Amy and Megan look at each other, *huh?*

AMY  
But, your mother's in a cemetery.  
Two miles away.

JOEL  
It's where he belongs, it's the  
right thing to do.

Dad... MEGAN AMY  
You need to rest. It's not  
safe--

JOEL  
We've been down here for three  
years now. When was the last time  
we saw anyone?

AMY  
But you could trip, your O<sub>2</sub> pack  
could break. Accidents happen,  
Joel, as evidenced by today.

MEGAN  
I can go with you, Dad.

Amy turns to Megan, looks at her like she's nuts.

JOEL  
No, Meg, you're staying here.

AMY  
This is crazy. Both of you. No one  
is going anywhere.

Joel simply gets up and shuffles into his bedroom. Amy turns  
to Megan, annoyed. Megan stands and goes into her room.

**INT. AMY AND JOEL'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

The room is bare. A bed, dresser, wood crate nightstand, and  
a floor lamp. Books are stacked up high against the walls.

Joel is resting in bed. Amy enters, still peeved, and shuts  
the door. She lays down next to Joel.

AMY  
Honestly, is this something you  
need to do?

JOEL  
Somebody has to.

Amy nods to herself, places a loving hand on Joel's chest.



**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THE NEXT DAY**

Joel zips up his EV suit while Megan sits on the couch. He walks towards a constant **WHIR...**

A boxy, 4x3 machine encased in plexiglass. Tubes extend out of the machine to a vent in the ceiling. This is an **OXYGEN GENERATION SYSTEM**, and it's what keeps them alive.

Attached to the O<sub>2</sub> generator via a hose is an O<sub>2</sub> cylinder. He unhooks it, checks the digital O<sub>2</sub> level: **100%/5hrs.**

He places the cylinder inside a bulky backpack and connects the tubes. This is a PLSS (Portable Life Support System).

MEGAN

What was grandpa doing up there?

JOEL

I don't know, Meg.  
 (changing the subject)  
 I need you to do me a few favors.  
 One: Check the levels on the generator. Two: Check in on your mom. And three: Try not to kill each other while I'm gone.

Megan chuckles.

MEGAN

One: yes. Two: yes. Three: maybe.  
 You know how she can get.

JOEL

I know how you can get too. You two have to get along. She loves you. And you love her.  
 (beat, dorky smile)  
 And I love both of you.

Joel gives Megan a hug.

**MOMENTS LATER**

Joel is suited up. He pockets a HANDGUN.

He looks at Amy, who is standing in their bedroom doorway, disapproving.

On the opposite side of the room is Megan. Joel looks at her, forces a smile, and gives her a hug and a kiss.

He goes to the submarine door, turns the deadbolts, and pulls it open. He steps out and Megan shuts the door.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Dark. Joel flips on a miner's light attached to his helmet, illuminating a twenty foot staircase leading up.

He grins and waves at a security camera mounted above the door he exited. We notice a keypad on the door and a lever.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan sees her dad on the monitor. PUSH IN on Megan...

*MEGAN (V.O.)  
I was fifteen when our planet  
officially turned to shit...*

Megan smirks and waves back.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

When Joel turns away from the camera, his smile fades and is replaced by sadness and dread. He climbs the staircase. At the top is a METAL HATCH in the ceiling with a combo padlock.

*MEGAN (V.O.)  
We reached a tipping point. It all  
happened so quickly, like a virus  
that spreads in a zombie movie...*

Joel turns the dial and unhooks the lock. He places his back against the hatch and pushes until it opens up... BRIGHT, BLINDING, RED LIGHT POURS IN FROM ABOVE...

**EXT. FARM - DAY**

Joel pokes his head out of an ACCESS HATCH in the ground, next to the barn. Their shelter is hidden under this barn.

*MEGAN (V.O.)  
In a matter of months, trees and  
plant life failed to exist...*

He pulls himself out and closes the hatch. It's disguised with rocks and dirt to blend in with the ravaged terrain.

**EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY**

The sun blasts as Joel treks across a burnt field, hauling a wagon with the tarp wrapped body of his dad. Brittle trees are toppled over, turning to dust.

MEGAN (V.O.)  
*Soon, you couldn't go outside  
 without a breathing device.*

**EXT. MAIN STREET - SUNSET**

Joel trudges down a small-town main street. Crumbling storefronts are boarded up. Abandoned cars, with NY STATE license plates, haphazardly clog the road.

MEGAN (V.O.)  
*People banded together, for a  
 little while.*

The ground is littered with the dead from asphyxiation. Skin purple. Mouths wide. Bulging eyes. The fear in their final moments frozen on their faces.

MEGAN (V.O.)  
*Lucky for us, in addition to my dad  
 being an engineer, he was also a  
 survivalist. For years people said  
 he was a nut. And in a sense, they  
 were right. You had to be slightly  
 crazy to prepare like he did.*

Joel checks his O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **4hrs, 35min.**

MEGAN (V.O.)  
*So, when the shit-hit-the-fan, we  
 were physically prepared to survive  
 a world without oxygen.  
 Emotionally, not so much.*

Joel's breathing grows faster and faster and *FASTER*.

CUT TO BLACK:

# B R E A T H E

**INT. SHELTER/BEDROOM - UNKNOWN**

Amy lays in bed, staring at the ceiling, thoughts elsewhere.

Her wristwatch *BEEPS*. She snaps out of it and rolls over, facing an EMPTY half of the bed.

SUPER: **5 MONTHS LATER**

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy sits at the kitchen table, eating breakfast by herself. Across the room, Megan's door is closed.

**EXT. FARM - DAY**

The access hatch opens. Amy, wearing an EV suit, peers out. She clutches a shotgun, scans the area.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy sweeps the solar panels. Working hard and fast, her breath fogs up her mask.

**EXT. SIDE OF THE BARN - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy kneels next to a patch of dried soil. She scoops up a handful, studies it, then tosses it aside in frustration.

Amy grabs a gardening shovel, digs a one-foot hole.

She unzips a fanny pack, takes out a handful of SEEDS and PITS, and drops them into the hole.

Amy unhooks a canister from her belt. As soon as she takes the lid off, the liquid inside starts to fizz and evaporate.

She quickly pours it onto the seeds and pits and heaps dirt on top of them. She stands, looks at the dirt, hopeful...

**INT. BARN - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy weaves around a TARP covered VEHICLE and places the shovel on a hook, next to other gardening tools.

**INT. STAIRWELL/SHELTER DOOR - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy punches in a code, then reaches for her belt and grabs a BLACK KEYCARD attached to a retractable keychain. She places the card against the door, six inches above the pad. *CLICK*.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy peels off her EV suit and O<sub>2</sub> backpack. Her grey T-shirt is soaked with sweat. Heaving, Amy plops down on the couch.

*THUD... THUD... THUD...*

Amy narrows her eyes at Megan's bedroom door where something is repeatedly hitting against the wall.

Amy ignores the noise, stands and connects her O<sub>2</sub> cylinder to the O<sub>2</sub> generator. The oxygen level ticks up... **30%... 31%**.

But Amy notices something odd on the O<sub>2</sub> generator. Annoyed by what she sees, she turns a dial, correcting the issue.

She looks up at Megan's room... *THUD...*

**INT. SHELTER/MEGAN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Megan lays flat in bed, throwing a SOFTBALL at the cement wall and catching it in a mitt. She is pale and thin with greasy hair and dark rings under her eyes.

Her walls are adorn with sketches of landscapes, photos from her school days with friends playing softball, and a Bob Marley poster. An inmate making the best of their cell.

Her room is also a DISASTER. Clothes are thrown everywhere. DIRTY BOWLS and crusty, EMPTY CANS of food litter the floor.

A KNOCK at the door.

MEGAN  
(sarcastic)  
Who is it?

Amy thrusts open the door.

AMY  
Did you forget something today?

Megan sits up, scrunches her brow.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Check the ECO levels?

MEGAN  
No, because it hasn't been 12 hours since my last check. At least wait for me to forget before yelling at me.

AMY

There's the problem. If I had waited, we'd already be sick from oxygen toxicity.

MEGAN

Then instead of yelling at me, let's decrease the time between tech checks. That's the real problem, right?

AMY

(beat, deep breath)  
You eat today?

MEGAN

I'll get something soon.

AMY

Saving your appetite for tomorrow?

MEGAN

Tomorrow?

AMY

Thanksgiving.

MEGAN

Now that I did forget.

Megan lays back down, resumes throwing the softball at the wall. Amy lingers, eyeing the food cans and dirty laundry.

AMY

You know the saying 'cleanliness is next to godliness?'

MEGAN

You don't believe in God.

AMY

But I can see your room is a mess. It's been a disaster for months. Please, throw out the cans and wash your clothes.

MEGAN

Seriously? You're giving me crap about my room?

AMY

You're being careless.

MEGAN

It's my fucking room.

AMY  
Hey. Watch your mouth.

MEGAN  
You watch my mouth. *Fuck.*

AMY  
*Enough.*

MEGAN  
We can only go outside for as long as we can hold our breath and you're upset about socks on the floor.

AMY  
It's not just about socks and you know it. Dirty clothes means germs. Old food means bacteria. Germs and bacteria mean we can get sick. And we cannot risk getting sick.

Amy leans in close to Megan's face.

AMY (CONT'D)  
But most of all, it means not giving up. Clean your *fucking* room.

Amy storms out. Megan gets up and slams the door shut.

**INT. SHELTER/AMY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Amy lays down in bed and looks up at the ceiling. Her anger gradually subsides and is replaced with guilt and regret.

She rolls onto her side, stares at a photo on the nightstand: Amy, Joel and two year-old Megan are in front of a WATERFALL.

**EXT. THE NIAGARA GORGE - DAY (FLASHBACK)**

*A beautiful hiking path surrounded by tall, lush GREEN TREES.*

*Amy (tan, fit, healthy and all smiles) treks up the mountain. On her back is two year-old Megan, inside a baby carrier.*

AMY  
*One of these days you're gonna have to give dad a turn.*

*Joel, cleanly shaven, chews on a stick of beef jerky. He smiles back, adjusts the heavy backpack he's lugging.*

JOEL

*I tried carrying her, but she's definitely in a mommy mood today.*

**CUT TO:**

**MOMENTS LATER,** Amy, Joel and Megan camping and eating lunch. Megan stands up. It looks like she wants to take a step.

**CUT TO:**

**MOMENTS LATER,** They reach a clearing overlooking a waterfall. Joel takes Megan out of the baby carrier. He holds up his phone and takes a selfie. As he SNAPS a PHOTO we CUT TO:

**INT. SHELTER/AMY'S ROOM - PRESENT DAY**

Amy reaches for a NOISE MACHINE on the crate nightstand, switches it to the "rain" setting, and shuts her eyes.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan tiptoes out of her bedroom, puts an ear to her mom's door, and hears the "rain."

**INT. SHELTER/MEGAN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan slides a storage bin out from under her bed. She pops the lid, removes a blanket, revealing a handheld HAM RADIO.

**MOMENTS LATER**

Megan has set up the radio. She quietly talks into a mic.

MEGAN

Joel Reed...? Are you out there, Dad?

STATIC.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

It's been a while since we talked. I gotta say, I'm becoming quite the artist. I think you'd be proud...

Megan probably knows her dad is not listening. We get the sense that this is perhaps more therapeutic than practical.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

And, per your orders, mom and I haven't killed each other yet. So, I'm being pretty good...



Megan regards her messy room.

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
Well, most of the time.  
(moving on)  
Anyways, everything seems to be  
okay for the moment. Still alive.  
Still breathing--

A CRACKLE in the static. Megan snaps her head up.

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
Dad? Dad?!... HELLO?

But the CRACKLE is gone. Just PURE STATIC again and no response. Disappointed, Megan leans back in her chair.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THE NEXT DAY**

Amy exercises on a vertical mountain climbing machine.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy is on a yoga mat, legs crossed, eyes closed, focusing on her breathing... *In... Out... In...*

**INT. SHELTER/HYDROPONIC GARDEN ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

A room we haven't seen yet: Half the room has LED LIGHTS and a sprinkler system on the ceiling. Underneath is a rack with bins of micro-greens labeled: peas, broccoli, spinach.

The other half is a lab. Amy is hunched over a worktable, reading a textbook on "Plant Life." On the table are test tubes, beakers with chemicals, and sacks of fertilizer.

She combines several liquids and transfers them into the CANISTER we saw her use outside on the seeds and pits. She shakes up the canister and sets it down.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy exits the garden room. She's about to walk into her bedroom, but stops and looks at Megan's closed door.

Amy KNOCKS. No answer. She opens the door a crack to see Megan sleeping. Amy sits on the bed, stirring Megan awake.

Amy caresses Megan's head. As she does, she feels Megan's greasy and stringy hair between her fingers.

AMY  
How about a spa day before dinner?

MEGAN  
A 'spa day?'

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan is leaning over a sink. Amy pours a pitcher of sudsy water over Megan's long hair and begins to scrub.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan sits in a chair, sporting a sour look and a garbage bag for a smock. Amy is behind Megan, holding a pair of scissors.

AMY  
So tell me, ma'am. What can I do for you today?

MEGAN  
Go short.

AMY  
My pleasure. How short?

Megan thinks about it, then pulls her hair into a tight ponytail, takes the scissors, and lops off the entire thing, instantly giving herself a medium length "bob cut."

MEGAN  
That short.

Amy tilts her head to the side, appraising the cut.

AMY  
I like your work.

Amy grabs the scissors and cuts off her own ponytail.

MEGAN  
(laughing)  
Mom?!

AMY  
What? You thought I was lying?

Megan doesn't want to smile, but she can't help it.

**QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS:** A can opener winds its way around a can of CAMPBELL'S CHUNKY TURKEY DINNER soup. Amy picks micro-greens from the garden. Amy and Megan set the kitchen table.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

A red checkered tablecloth is draped over the table. CLASSICAL MUSIC plays from a stereo. Amy and Megan each have a bowl of soup, garnished with micro-greens.

AMY

Thanks for listening to this music.  
I know it's not really your thing.

Amy uncorks a bottle of Pinot Noir and pours herself a glass. Megan stares at her cup of water, drinks it, then holds out the empty cup for a pour. Amy squints, *"I don't think so."*

MEGAN

Really? Afraid we'll get arrested?

Amy laughs, then gives Megan a small pour of wine. Amy raises her glass. They cheers. Megan takes a sip and winces.

AMY

Want to watch a movie tonight?  
Since I picked the music, you can  
pick the movie.

Megan doesn't answer, something weighs on her mind.

MEGAN

Tomorrow, I want to go look for Dad.

AMY

We've been over this. I looked.

MEGAN

And never found him. He might still  
be, I don't know... out there?

AMY

Meg, Dad's gone.

Megan clenches her jaw, takes another sip of wine.

AMY (CONT'D)

We just need to keep focus on  
what's important. I'm making  
headway in the garden. We just have  
to keep working it. If we can get  
something to grow out there--

MEGAN

You've been trying for years. Just  
because you milked cows and grew  
corn for a living, that doesn't  
make you a biologist, or whatever.

AMY

You know, I'm doing all this on my own here. Maybe if I had a little help from time to time--

MEGAN

Bull crap, I've tried to help! And every time, you've gotten on me for some stupid little thing. Like today with the generator. I was gonna check it, but you didn't even give me a chance. And that's the way you've been my whole life, before we even became cellmates.

AMY

Megan, we can't keep fighting like this. Really, enough already.

MEGAN

No, I don't have to do everything the way you do it. You just have to trust me.

AMY

Believe me honey, I would love for that to be the case.

Stung, Megan gets up, storms into her room, and SLAMS the door. Amy tries to eat, but can't. She throws down her fork.

**INT. SHELTER/AMY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Amy lays in bed, unable to sleep. She turns on the noise machine and lets it "rain."

**INT. SHELTER/MEGAN'S ROOM - NIGHT**

Megan is at her desk, drawing in her sketchpad. Her eyes are red from crying. She looks up at the landscapes and photos.

She lands on a photo of her and Amy hugging at a school graduation, sees how they were once happy together...

**INT. HYDROPONIC GARDEN ROOM - THE NEXT DAY**

Amy pours another mixture of liquids into the canister.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy is in her EV suit and O<sub>2</sub> backpack, about to head out.

Megan steps out of her room. She has on an EV suit and O<sub>2</sub> backpack. A BEAT as each waits for the other to talk.

MEGAN  
Want some help?

Amy glances inside Megan's room and sees that it's been cleaned up. Amy smiles, touched by the peace offering.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan sweeps the dirt off the solar panels while Amy kneels beside the exhaust pipe, appraising the airflow.

**EXT. BARN/DIRT PATCH - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy hovers behind Megan as she places the seeds in the dirt. Megan pours the solution from the canister onto the seeds.

**INT. BARN - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan hands Amy the push broom. She hangs it up on a hook.

AMY  
Thanks, honey.

Amy's O<sub>2</sub> gauge *BLEEPS: 15 min*

AMY (CONT'D)  
Shoot, let's get inside.

Amy turns, but Megan isn't there and the barn doors are open.

**EXT. BARN - CONTINUOUS**

Amy walks outside, but still doesn't see Megan.

AMY  
Meg?

Amy jogs around the side of the barn.

AMY (CONT'D)  
*Megan?!*

Amy is GRABBED from behind and THROWN against the barn -- It's Megan and she immediately starts SHUSHING her mother.

MEGAN

*Quiet* -- I think... I see someone.

AMY

*What?* No.

MEGAN

Yes. Look.

Amy peeks around the corner of the barn.

#### **ACROSS THE OPEN FIELD**

Through the wavy heat, two small dots bounce up and down, cresting a hilltop one hundred yards away.

As the dots get closer, they take shape. TWO PEOPLE. In EV suits, O<sub>2</sub> backpacks, pushing a tarp covered shopping cart. One person carries a shotgun, the other wields a rifle.

AMY

*Shit...*

Amy looks at the access hatch on the other side of the barn. If Amy and Megan make a run for it, they'll be seen.

MEGAN

Maybe they're... help?

Highly fucking skeptical, Amy looks back at the two figures.

Nearing the farmhouse, we can more clearly make them out. A HEFTY MAN pushing the cart and a TALL WOMAN. They're hunched over in exhaustion, each step taking a great deal of effort.

The Tall Woman motions to the farmhouse. The Hefty Man racks his shotgun, and enters through a back door.

AMY

Listen to me. When she turns away, we run for the hatch. Okay?

Megan nods, "yes." Amy looks back at the Tall Woman, who is heading towards the front of the farmhouse.

#### **INT. FARMHOUSE - THAT MOMENT**

The Hefty Man walks upstairs, gun at the ready. Through his visor, we notice his left eye is permanently BLOODSHOT. He moves with fluidity and precision. *Maybe military trained?*

**EXT. BARN - THAT MOMENT**

Amy peers around the side.

AMY

She's near the front of the house.

Amy grabs Megan's hand, ready to bolt.

AMY (CONT'D)

Get ready.

The Tall Woman turns her back to the barn.

*BLEEP--BLEEP*, Amy's O<sub>2</sub> gauge sounds: **10 min**

Amy retreats back behind the barn and silences the alert.

**ON THE TALL WOMAN**

Hearing the alarm. She turns to the barn... aims her rifle.

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Crouched behind the barn, not making a move.

**ON THE TALL WOMAN**

Hyper-cautious, she inches toward the barn. She gets to the door and taps it with the rifle muzzle.

TALL WOMAN

Anyone in there?

The Tall Woman's voice is calm, *almost* sweet, and devoid of any shake. Her even-keeled tone is mysterious and unnerving.

When she doesn't get a reply, she nudges the door open with her gun to see the tarp covered vehicle and gardening tools.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - THAT MOMENT**

The Hefty Man inspects the area. He glances out the window to see the barn door open and the Tall Woman nowhere in sight.

Then, he notices something else. On the side of the barn, he spots what looks like... *is that a foot peeking out?*

He moves to get a better angle and sees Amy and Megan pinning themselves up against the side of the barn.

The Hefty Man bangs his fists on the window.

HEFTY MAN  
TESS! TESS! THERE THEY ARE!

Amy and Megan startle, lock eyes with the Hefty Man.

**ON THE TALL WOMAN (TESS)**

As she runs out of the barn and looks up at the Hefty Man, frantically pointing at something down below.

HEFTY MAN (CONT'D)  
OVER THERE! ON THE OTHER SIDE!

Tess rounds the side of the barn and WHAM! She's clocked in the face with the shovel by Amy. Tess hits the dirt.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/STAIRS - THAT MOMENT**

The Hefty Man flies down the steps.

**EXT. BARN - THAT MOMENT**

Amy and Megan round the side of the barn, toward the hatch.

**ON TESS**

Shaking off the blow, picking herself up.

TESS  
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HURT YOU!

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Amy throws open the hatch, they climb inside.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Megan and Amy sprint down the steps.

Over their shoulders, FOOTSTEPS are heard racing after them.

**ON TESS**

Staggering down the stairs, seeing Amy and Megan at the door.

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Amy punches in the code. Uses the keycard. Opens the door.

They run inside the shelter and slam the door shut just as Tess RAMS into the door with her shoulder.



TESS  
NO! NO! NO!

Tess pounds her hands on the door as the Hefty Man comes bounding down the steps.

TESS (CONT'D)  
They got inside.

The Hefty Man raises his shotgun.

TESS (CONT'D)  
*What the hell're you doing?!*

BAM! He FIRES at the door. The PELLETS RICOCHETS OFF.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy and Megan scramble behind the couch.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

The Hefty Man racks the shotgun, aims, but Tess shoves the gun up and BAM! He fires into the ceiling. Cement rains down.

TESS  
You'll kill us.

The Hefty Man comes back down to Earth. The dust settles as Tess and the Hefty Man catch their breath.

TESS (CONT'D)  
Hey. Can you hear me in there?

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy peeks her head up over the couch.

TESS (O.S.)  
(muffled)  
I'm sorry, he shouldn't have done that. We don't want to hurt you.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess is still catching her breath.

TESS  
My name is Tess. My overreacting friend here is Lucas.  
(MORE)

TESS (CONT'D)  
 Us, along with nine other people,  
 have been living in a shelter fifty  
 miles north of here at Claremont  
 Farms.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy and Megan exchange a look.

TESS (O.S.)  
 But our air filtration system is  
 failing. We tried fixing it, but we  
 can't. We're living on reserves and  
 only have a week's worth left...

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Still winded, Tess puts her hand on the door for support.

TESS  
 Lucas and I left our shelter three  
 days ago... to come here.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy and Megan look at each other, *To come here?*

TESS (O.S.)  
 I know your husband, Joel Reed.

Megan's eyes light up.

MEGAN  
 Maybe they found Dad?

AMY  
 (ignoring Megan)  
*What -- What are you talking  
 about?! How do you know Joel?!*

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess spots the security camera above the door. She turns her  
 back to the camera and motions to it with her eyes for Lucas.

AMY (O.S.)  
 HEY! How do you know Joel?!

TESS

I was a colleague of his at the school. I'm an engineer, like him.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy and Megan crawl to the monitor and zoom in on Tess.

AMY

I have no idea who you are. I knew everyone that Joel worked with.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Desperate, Tess stares up at the security camera.

TESS

Not everyone, because you don't know me. But I do know what he was trying to build. And it looks like he succeeded, because you're still breathing. I'm talking about the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy glances at the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

TESS (O.S.)

That machine is unique, far more advanced than anything we have. I came here to talk to Joel. I need to learn how to replicate it.

Amy looks at Megan, then back at the monitor... Debating...

AMY

Joel's not here.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess raises her head.

AMY (O.S.)

He's dead.

Tess processes the news when BAM! She whips around and sees Lucas SLAMMING his fist into the cement walls.

LUCAS  
DAMNIT! Shit! FUCK!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy and Megan watch Lucas on the MONITOR as he has a mini-meltdown. Tess places a comforting hand on his shoulder, but he throws it off. Tess turns back to the door.

TESS  
Okay, Amy. That's your name, Amy?

Amy is taken aback by this woman knowing her name.

TESS (CONT'D)  
And that's your daughter, what's her name again? Megan?

Megan looks at her mom.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry to hear about Joel.  
(beat)  
But I still need to know how to replicate that machine. And in order to do that, you have to let us in.

Amy's eyes dart between the monitor and Megan.

TESS (CONT'D)  
We don't have enough oxygen to make it back home. And if we don't make it home, there are people there that will die. Nine people. Four of them children. *Children.*

AMY  
And how do I know that?

TESS  
Claire, Thomas, Jackson, Molly. Those are their names. They're real.

AMY  
This room can't fit any more people. The system could crash with more bodies in here.

TESS  
I promise, I'll be quick.

AMY

*Right...* And if you can't replicate it, I'm just supposed to believe you'll walk away? How do I know you're not just trying to get in here and take over this space?

TESS

Because you have my word.

MEGAN

(whispering)

What if she's telling the truth?

Amy glares at Megan, *Are you fucking serious?*

AMY

I have *no* idea who this woman is.

MEGAN

She knew your name, she knew my name, somehow she knows us. If she's being honest, and she can potentially replicate Dad's invention...? This could be the beginning of something... *big*.

AMY

We haven't seen anyone for a year. Your father goes out a few months ago and now these people show up? That *can't* be a coincidence.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess has an ear planted against the door, eavesdropping.

LUCAS

What's goin' on in there?

TESS

Shut up and I'll tell you.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan and Amy are still debating.

MEGAN

So you're saying what exactly? These people found Dad and that's how they know about our place?

AMY

I'm saying we don't know. And we didn't get this far by taking chances on things we don't know.

MEGAN

You're right. We don't know. Maybe they did something to Dad, maybe they didn't. But here's something I do know: If we didn't know Dad and he knocked on our door, we wouldn't have let him in. We'd be doing exactly what we're doing to these people right now. So it's people like *us* that would've let him die.

Amy reluctantly considers Megan's impassioned plea.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess is still listening at the door.

AMY (O.S.)

Get away from the door!

Tess steps back and raises her hands.

AMY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Now listen: I don't know if you're telling the truth. But that doesn't mean you're lying.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy glances at Megan, unsure she's making the correct choice.

AMY

If we're going to let you in, you need to follow our instructions. If you veer from those instructions, we will leave you out there to die. Understand?

TESS (O.S.)

Yes, I understand. *We* understand.

AMY

First: Put down your weapons.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess drops her rifle. She turns to a hesitant Lucas.

TESS  
What're you waiting for?

Lucas begrudgingly lays his shotgun on the floor.

AMY (O.S.)  
Back away from the door until your  
heels touch the stairwell.

Tess and Lucas do as they're told.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Now go outside, walk one hundred  
feet from here, get on your knees,  
and put your hands in the air.

LUCAS  
(whispering)  
This is bullshit.

TESS  
(whispering)  
Quiet and do what she says.

AMY (O.S.)  
Believe me when I say I'm looking  
for a reason not to let you in  
here. And you whispering to each  
other is giving me a good reason.

TESS  
No, we're sorry! We'll do what you  
said. One hundred feet. Kneel.  
Hands in the air. We'll be waiting.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

ON THE MONITOR: Tess and Lucas disappear up the stairwell.

AMY  
Whatever happens outside, do not  
open this door unless I say the  
word. Understand?

Amy zips up her EV suit and reattaches her O<sub>2</sub> backpack.

MEGAN  
It's gonna be okay.

AMY

That's not what I asked. Now answer me, directly for once.

MEGAN

Whatever happens, don't open the door unless you say the word.

Amy grabs the shotgun and slings the strap over her shoulder. She turns the deadbolts and cracks the door.

The coast appears to be clear. Amy picks up the weapons Lucas and Tess left behind and relays them to Megan.

Amy gives Megan one last look before pulling the door shut.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Amy looks up the stairwell. All she can see is the open access hatch above and the red glow of the sky.

**AMY'S POV THROUGH HER MASK**, panicked breaths fog the visor, making it hard to see. She cautiously ascends the stairs.

She reaches the top and pokes her head outside to see: Tess and Lucas on their knees, one hundred feet from the barn.

**EXT. FARM - CONTINUOUS**

Amy climbs out and closes the hatch. She gathers herself, tentatively approaches them, and stops twenty feet shy.

AMY

T-Tell me your names again. First and last.

TESS

Tess Grainer.

LUCAS

Lucas Tomek.

AMY

Goddamnit, slower and one at a time.

TESS

Tess Grainer.

LUCAS

Lu-cas. To-mek.

AMY

Tess Grainer? Again, never heard Joel mention your name.



TESS  
Again, we were colleagues.

AMY  
And what's your deal, Lucas Tomek?

TESS  
His job was to get us here.

AMY  
And before then?

LUCAS  
Getting people to where they need  
to be has always been my job.

AMY  
And the shelter you came from?

TESS  
A bread mill. Built during the Cold  
War with a fallout shelter. On the  
day things turned, my car stalled  
and I just happened to be at the  
right place at the right time.  
Never met the family before in my  
life, but *they* let us in.

Amy eyes Tess, *That's a good story. Almost believable.* Amy  
shifts her gaze to Lucas who remains silent.

AMY  
Okay Tess. Tie up Lucas.

Amy pulls a ZIP-TIE out of her pocket and tosses it to Tess.

TESS  
Amy, this isn't necessary.

Amy refuses to engage and keeps the shotgun leveled at them.

TESS (CONT'D)  
Fair enough. Just be careful with  
that thing. You seem a little shaky  
and we don't need a misfire.

AMY  
No shit. Hands behind his back.

Lucas shakes his head in disgust. Tess crawls to the zip-tie,  
then scurries back to Lucas.

Amy perspires inside her mask, sweat drips into her eyes. She blinks it away, glances at her oxygen levels: **15 min**

TESS  
Ah shit...

AMY  
What?

TESS  
I messed it up.

AMY  
Messed what up?

TESS  
The tie broke.

Amy stares at Tess, *Are you serious?*

TESS (CONT'D)  
I swear, I don't know -- It was weird when you gave it to me --

Amy takes out another zip-tie and throws it at Tess.

AMY  
Mess up again, you lose your invite.

Tess nods, fiddles with the zip-tie until *ZZZZIIIIIPPP*.

LUCAS  
Owww. Shit, too tight!

AMY  
Quiet. Show me.

Lucas winces as he turns around and shows his tied wrists.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Now lay down. On your stomachs.  
Feet facing me.

Tess and Lucas do as they're told. Amy walks over to them and stops by their feet.

Amy takes out another zip-tie. In a hurry, she pulls Tess's hands behind her back and zip-ties them.

Amy frisks Tess. Clean. She moves on to Lucas and pats him down. Also clean.

Amy quickly steps back, *BREATHING HEAVY* and *FAST*.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Okay... Okay... Stand up.

Tess and Lucas stand.

AMY (CONT'D)  
No. Just her. You sit.

LUCAS  
*What?*

AMY  
He stays out here.

TESS  
Amy, look at his oxygen levels.

Amy glimpses at Lucas's O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **1hr 2min**

She checks Tess's O<sub>2</sub> levels, also: **1hr 2min**

AMY  
You're wasting his time. Things go well inside, we'll see about him.

TESS  
(to Lucas)  
It's gonna be okay. Promise.

Amy stares at Lucas. *Maybe these people are telling the truth?* Amy shakes the thought from her brain.

Amy digs her shotgun into Tess's back, nudging her towards the access hatch.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan watches on the MONITOR: Amy and Tess come into view. Amy gives a thumbs up to the security camera.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

We HEAR Megan unlatching the deadbolts. The door opens.

FOOTSTEPS are heard stomping down the stairs.

AMY  
I said stay put!

Amy whips around to see a third person in an EV suit, NOT Lucas, charging down the steps with a sniper rifle.

TESS  
MICAH! NO!

MICAH (30) raises his gun at Amy and BANG!

A SHOT RINGS OUT!

Micah falls backwards, BLOOD BURSTS from his shoulder.

In the shelter doorway, Megan is clutching a SMOKING GUN.

Tess takes cover in the stairwell corner.

Megan takes aim at Micah, pulls the trigger -- *CLICK*.

Realizing she's out of ammo, Micah leaps up and TACKLES Megan. They both fall into the shelter.

TESS MAKES A BREAK FOR THE DOOR --

AMY STICKS OUT HER LEG --

TRIPPING TESS, she lands FACE-FIRST onto the cement, slightly CRACKING her mask.

Amy crawls inside the shelter as Tess clambers after her.

Amy KICKS the door shut right in Tess's face.

Tess SMACKS the door over and over again.

TESS (CONT'D)  
NO! NO! NO! MICAH, YOU IDIOT!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan, trembling, reloads the gun, points it at Micah who is on the floor, cupping his bleeding shoulder.

Amy shakes herself back to reality and stands with vigor. She goes to a shelf, opens a bin, and grabs a roll of duct tape.

AMY  
Against the radiator.

Micah squirms over to the radiator. Amy duct tapes his hands to it, using up half of the roll.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Tess, hands still zip-tied, rams her shoulder into the door.

TESS (O.S.)  
AMY! I'M SORRY!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy runs up to the door.

AMY  
What the hell was that?!

TESS (O.S.)  
I'm sorry, I should've told you.  
That's Micah -- He was our lookout--

AMY  
'Lookout?!'

TESS (O.S.)  
You have to understand. I didn't  
know if I could trust you either. I  
wanted someone to stay behind and  
watch.

MICAH  
(in pain)  
I saw you cuffing them... I didn't  
know what you were doing... I  
didn't know if you were taking her  
hostage or what...

AMY  
'Hostage?' You're so full of shit.

TESS (O.S.)  
No! It was a misunderstanding!

AMY  
Get away from the door or I'll  
shoot him. I swear.

TESS (O.S.)  
Go ahead, shoot him. Our shelter is  
out of oxygen, so we're dead  
anyway. Remember what I said? There  
are kids there. Lives depend on us.

AMY  
Bullshit! There aren't any kids. So  
stop saying that.

Tess is about to shout back, but stops herself. Breathes.  
Regains her composure and returns to a calm voice.

TESS (O.S.)  
 Amy, I'm sorry about what happened.  
 But I need to see that machine. And  
 I will see it, one way or another.

Amy and Megan exchange a look, *What's that mean?*

TESS (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 Now you have the option of whether  
 or not anyone else gets hurt. So  
 before you answer, take a minute...  
 think it through, think about your  
 daughter, do the smart thing.

AMY  
 (considering, then)  
*Fuck off.*

Tess's face hardens, checks her O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **48 min**

**EXT. FARM - SECONDS LATER**

Tess runs out of the stairwell and up to Lucas.

TESS  
 Are you two trying to screw this  
 up?

LUCAS  
 Me? Micah's the one who lost his  
 shit.

Tess sits on the ground, swoops her zip-tied hands under her  
 butt and over her feet so that her hands are in front of her.

Tess dashes over to the shopping cart Lucas was pushing. Two  
 bungee cords are fastened over a tarp.

She releases the cords, flings back the tarp revealing  
 supplies: O<sub>2</sub> cylinders, I.V. drip bags, tools, handguns.

Tess pulls out a LEATHERMAN KNIFE, hands it to Lucas. He  
 slices her free. She returns the favor.

TESS  
 We thought this could happen. Get  
 to work.

There's an INDUSTRIAL DRILL taking up the bottom of the cart.

LUCAS  
 (shaking his head)  
 It's not gonna work. All I saw on  
 that door was a keypad. No lock to  
 drill or anything to pick.

TESS  
 So what are you saying? That we  
 lugged this heavy piece of shit all  
 three days for nothing?

LUCAS  
 Tess.

TESS  
 You said you could get us inside.  
 That's the whole reason you're here.

LUCAS  
 No. I said I'd get us here. And I  
 did.

Tess bites her tongue.

TESS  
 Okay... We both have forty-seven  
 minutes left in these tanks.

Overwhelmed by their impending doom, Tess and Lucas stare at  
 each other, silently sharing the grim prospect.

TESS (CONT'D)  
 So how the hell do we get in there?

Tess scans the area, settling on the farmhouse.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy digs inside a bin and pulls out a heavy pair of SCISSORS.  
 She walks to Micah, who is pale and woozy from blood loss.

Micah recoils in fear as she leans forward with the scissors  
 and slices open his EV suit at the shoulder.

Blood seeps out of a bullet hole in the meaty part of Micah's  
 shoulder. She examines his back, finds an exit wound.

Amy goes into her room and comes back with a belt. She ties a  
 tourniquet around his shoulder, staunching the blood.

MICAH  
 You're not gonna let me die?

Amy goes to a FIRST AID KIT mounted on the wall, retrieves gauze and tape, and starts dressing Micah's wound.

AMY  
This is your fault.

MICAH  
Sorry.

AMY  
I wasn't only talking to you.

Amy shoots Megan a harsh stare.

AMY (CONT'D)  
I never should've let you talk me into going out there.

MEGAN  
So it's my fault?

AMY  
And *my* fault for listening to you.

Megan eats the jab.

MICAH  
(groggy)  
Is... that it?

They look at Micah, who is transfixed by the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

AMY  
Not an engineer like your friend?

MICAH  
Locksmith.

AMY  
*...Locksmith?*

Micah blinks hard, focuses, realizes what he just said.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Well, I don't know what supermarket kiosk you worked at, but you never stood a chance against this place.

Micah hangs his head.

MEGAN  
Why'd you run at us out there?



MICAH

I told you, all I saw was my friends getting hogtied and you leading 'em into this place. I freaked, I'm sorry.

AMY

Don't listen to him.  
(to Micah)  
And don't talk to my daughter.

MICAH

She asked me a quest-- AWW!

Amy squeezes the gauze tight, silencing Micah.

AMY

Don't talk to me, either.

Amy storms off, into the garden room.

MICAH

(whispers to Megan)  
I talk when I'm nervous.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER**

Tess and Lucas, HUFFING and PUFFING, tear open bins, searching for anything that could help.

Tess's eyes fall on something in the corner of the garage. We don't see what it is, but she reaches for it...

**INT. SHELTER/HYDROPONIC GARDEN ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Megan strides in to see Amy sitting at the worktable, staring off into space.

AMY

You still believe him, don't you?

MEGAN

I want to.  
(beat)  
And so do you.

Amy turns to Megan, confused.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

That's why you bandaged him up. Just in case they're telling the truth.

Amy takes Megan's hands in hers, lovingly, yet firmly.

AMY

Honey, we gave them a chance and they threw it away.

MEGAN

At least hear me out.

AMY

I did hear you out and look where it got us. Now it's my turn. We're not letting them in, so get that thought out of your head.

Megan looks off, annoyed.

AMY (CONT'D)

I can't be worrying about you *and* them. I need us working together.

MEGAN

(sarcastic)

Together. Right, sure.

AMY

Please, *please* do not fight me on this. Not now.

MEGAN

But--

AMY

But nothing! All I want to hear is, 'Yes, mom, we're together on this.'

Megan hesitates.

AMY (CONT'D)

*Megan.*

MEGAN

Yes, yes, we're together.

Amy lets go of Megan's hands.

AMY

Good. Now, when I was outside, I saw they each only had about an hour of oxygen left. All we have to do is outlast them. One hour.

MEGAN  
 (nodding)  
 Yeah... got it... One hour.

*BANG--BANG--BANG* on the shelter door.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy runs up to the MONITOR: The screen is BLACKED OUT.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Black electrical tape covers the security camera lens.

Lucas swings a sledgehammer into an outer layer of sheetrock, creating a hole. He keeps bashing away until -- *CLANK*.

Tess peers inside the hole. He's hit a lead wall.

TESS  
 Whole thing's encased in a lead shell. We could throw a grenade at it and it wouldn't make a dent.  
 (thinking)  
 The only way inside is for them to open that door for us.

Tess thinks for a moment.

TESS (CONT'D)  
 Stay here. I have an idea. When they open the door, which they will do, secure them. Then get me.

Tess runs up the stairwell.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - MOMENTS LATER**

Tess scales the ladder, climbs onto the roof. She grazes her hands over the solar panels.

She crouches down, scans the roof floor, searching for something in particular, until her gaze lands on something...

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy sits in a chair with the shotgun aimed at Micah. Megan is at the MONITOR: Lucas is still standing guard.

AMY  
She back yet?

MEGAN  
Just the guy right now.

*BEEP--BEEP--BEEP*

An alarm on the O<sub>2</sub> generator sounds and a RED WARNING LIGHT blinks. Amy checks the ECO levels on the side panel.

AMY  
*Shit.*

*WHAM--WHAM--WHAM*

On the ceiling, a CO<sub>2</sub> detector BLARES and FLASHES.

Megan and Amy clasp their hands over their ears. In this confined space, it's like a SIREN blasting inside their head.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - CONTINUOUS**

Tess stands over the EXHAUST PIPE that Joel checked earlier. It's CLOGGED with a tarp, obstructing the free flow of air.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy silences the alarms, then looks at the digital panel on the O<sub>2</sub> generator -- THE CO<sub>2</sub> LEVELS ARE RAPIDLY CLIMBING.

AMY  
She's blocking the expulsion of carbon dioxide. We're not scrubbing it fast enough.

MEGAN  
How long before it's dangerous?

AMY  
At these levels? Five minutes.  
Quick, grab your cylinder and mask.

The O<sub>2</sub> cylinders are plugged into the O<sub>2</sub> generator, refilling.

Amy looks at her O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **20m**

Megan checks hers: **22m**

AMY (CONT'D)  
They've got at least forty minutes  
out there. They'll outlast us.

LOUD CLANKING -- Megan and Amy whip around to see Micah  
smashing his O<sub>2</sub> pack with his heel until a tube is severed.

Amy swipes it away, frantically tries to reconnect it as the  
O<sub>2</sub> levels dwindle: **40m... 21m... 19m... 5m**

AMY (CONT'D)  
You idiot!

MICAH  
I ain't gonna help you. Let 'em in.

Amy, attempting to hide her fear, turns to Megan.

AMY  
They're only trying to scare us.  
(shouts at the door)  
YOU'RE ONLY TRYING TO SCARE US!

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Lucas hears Amy shouting.

LUCAS  
SCARE YOU? NOW YOU KNOW HOW IT  
FEELS! OPEN THE DOOR!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

The CO<sub>2</sub> detectors go off again -- *WHAM--WHAM--WHAM.*

AMY  
IF YOU KILL US, YOU'LL NEVER MAKE  
IT IN HERE!

Micah bursts with laughter.

MICAH  
If they don't make it in here,  
they're dead anyway.

AMY  
(fuck, he's right)  
We have to stop her.

MEGAN

How? She's on the roof and that other guy's probably waiting for us outside the door.

Amy gets an idea. She pulls a bin from a shelf and spills the contents onto the floor. Random knick-knacks fall out.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

What're you doing?

Amy doesn't find what she's looking for, so she goes for another bin, dumps out more items.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Mom, answer me.

AMY

The garage door clicker.

MEGAN

The garage door...?

AMY

It might still work.

It dawns on Megan why she'd be looking for it. Megan helps, pulling down more bins and searching.

MEGAN

I found it!

Megan gives Amy the garage door clicker. She pops off the back. The batteries are corroded.

AMY

I need two double A's.

Megan gets the batteries and gives them to Amy. She quickly replaces them.

Amy moves as close to the door as possible and presses... *click... click... click...*

**EXT. FARMHOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

WIDE SHOT of the farmhouse. The garage door doesn't move.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy mashes the button faster, *click, click, click.*

**EXT. FARMHOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

Suddenly, the garage door on the farmhouse LOUDLY SQUEALS and GROANS open as it begins to rise.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

From over his shoulder, Lucas hears a loud GRINDING of GEARS and METAL coming from outside. *What the hell...?*

He turns around, inches up the staircase.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy plants her ear to the door, hears the faint SOUND of feet shuffling away.

**EXT. FARM - CONTINUOUS**

Lucas emerges from the access hatch to see the garage door going up. Gun out and up, he approaches the farmhouse.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Amy puts on her O<sub>2</sub> backpack, checks the gauge: **20m**

AMY

Megan, put on your mask.

MEGAN

What about him?

Amy places Micah's mask on his face.

AMY

I guess he has five minutes.

Amy grabs a rifle, leans in close to Megan.

AMY (CONT'D)

Remember, *do not* open the door unless I use the word.

Amy unlocks the door, opens it a crack. No Lucas. Amy steps outside, Megan slams the door shut, then turns back to Micah.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Amy quietly pads up the stairs. When she reaches the top, she peeks her head out to see the open garage and no Lucas.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/GARAGE - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas is looking around. Behind him, only we see Amy dart out of the hatch and hide on the other side of the barn.

**AMY'S POV:** Looking up at the roof, not seeing Tess.

LUCAS (O.S.)  
TESS. C'MERE. QUICK.

Lucas is standing outside the garage, waving for Tess.

TESS  
WHAT IS IT? GET BACK DOWN THERE!

LUCAS  
THERE'S SOMEONE IN THE HOUSE.

Lucas ducks back into the garage. Tess glances at the clogged pipe, then runs to the ladder and climbs down.

**ON AMY**

Kneeling on the other side of the barn, watching Tess rush towards the garage.

Amy aims at Tess, the crosshairs on her back, about to pull the trigger only to lose her shot as Tess enters the garage.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Micah thrashes back and forth, checks his O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **1 min.**

MICAH  
Please, I got a kid back there.

Megan sits across from him, knees nervously bouncing, the gun rattling in her lap and pointed at Micah.

MEGAN  
Yeah...? What's their name?

MICAH  
...Claire... She's six.



*Claire*. The name registers with Megan, Tess did say it earlier. Megan rises up... reaches out... then:

MEGAN

I'm sorry.

Megan can't watch what Micah's about to go through. She rushes into her room, leaving him alone.

MICAH

YOU HEARTLESS SHIT. DON'T LEAVE ME.

### MEGAN'S ROOM

Megan clamps headphones over her ears, presses play on a CD player. Music BLARES, drowning out Micah.

### MAIN CHAMBER

Micah is SCREAMING like a madman when -- BLEEP-BLEEP-BLEEP. His O<sub>2</sub> GAUGE BOTTOMS OUT AT ZERO. He starts to WHEEZE.

### MEGAN'S ROOM

Megan sits on her bed, eyes closed tight, trying to forget what's happening on the other side of her door.

### MAIN CHAMBER

Micah GASPS, face turning RED, his eyes CLOSING...

His mask is suddenly ripped off and a new one is put on. Micah's eyes SNAP open as he inhales two lungfuls of oxygen.

Megan is kneeling in front of him, giving him a pull from her O<sub>2</sub> cylinder. She whisks it away and puts it to her mouth.

MEGAN

I want to trust you. So I'll make you a deal. I'm going to ask you a question. For every *honest* answer you give me, I'll give you one minute to breathe.

Micah wildly nods, *Yes! Fucking yes!!*

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Did you kill my father and is that how you know about this place?

She puts the mask on him. He inhales, savoring every breath.

MICAH

No... we didn't kill your father...  
And no... that's not how we know  
about this place...

Megan pulls away the mask, takes some oxygen for herself.

MEGAN

Did that lady really work with my  
dad?

Megan gives Micah a turn with the mask.

MICAH

Yes... We're the good guys... Your  
mom is wrong... You're right...  
Trust your instincts...

Micah's eyes give nothing away. *He seems genuine.*

MICAH (CONT'D)

If you let Tess in here, maybe she  
can improve on your dad's creation?  
Maybe she can do more than even he  
was able to do.

Megan starts to take away the mask.

MICAH (CONT'D)

*No, no, no, wait! One more thing!*

Micah inhales, like it's the last breath he'll ever take.

MICAH (CONT'D)

But... if you let Tess die out  
there, we'll never know what she  
could have done.

Megan slowly takes the mask back. She holds his stare,  
ruminating over his words. Then:

*WHIRRRRR* -- The O<sub>2</sub> generator starts up with a *WHOOSH* of air  
rushing out the vent. The CO<sub>2</sub> levels begin to wane.

Megan places her hand over the vent, feels the airflow  
restored, breathes a sigh of relief. Looks back at Micah.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas leads the way through the room, passing under the hole  
in the ceiling. Tess is shielded behind him, on high alert.

TESS

We can't waste time in here. If they die down there we'll never get in. Do you hear me?

LUCAS

I do, and if there's someone else out here, they can let us in. A garage door doesn't open itself.

Then, something occurs to Tess.

TESS

*Shit.*

Tess races into the kitchen with the missing wall and heads for the barn when --

*PFFFT! PFFFT!*

Two bullets tear through a cabinet.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy is flat on her stomach, taking aim with her rifle at Tess. The exhaust pipe has been unclogged.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/KITCHEN - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas tackles Tess as a bullet whizzes by her head. He drags her out of the kitchen, no longer exposed to the outside.

**LIVING ROOM**

Tess picks herself up, kicks the wall. Pissed beyond words, she stares at Lucas, then looks at her O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **34 min.**

LUCAS

I'm sorry, I thought--

Tess puts up a hand, doesn't want to hear it. Instead, she peers around a corner at the barn.

TESS

WELL, YOU'RE OUT HERE NOW. WHY DON'T WE TRY TALKING AGAIN?

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy scans the house, searching for a clear shot.

TESS (O.S.)  
 I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH TIME YOU HAVE  
 LEFT, BUT IT CAN'T BE THAT MUCH.

Amy checks her oxygen gauge: **18 min.**

AMY  
 Shit...

Amy knows they have more oxygen than her.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas crawls under a window, gets the roof in his sights.

TESS  
 COME ON. SAY SOMETHING. ANYTHING.

When Tess doesn't get a reply, she turns to Lucas.

TESS (CONT'D)  
 For all we know she's got a full  
 tank. We have to get to her.

LUCAS  
 Yeah, I know.

TESS  
 So you go around the left side of  
 the barn. I'll go on the right side  
 to distract her--

LUCAS  
 What? No, Tess--

TESS  
 Don't interrupt. Let me finish--

LUCAS  
 I can't let you do that.

TESS  
 Do what?

LUCAS  
 I can't let you run out there like  
 a sitting duck.

TESS  
 There's no other way. We're running  
 out of time.

(MORE)

TESS (CONT'D)

We need to get to her, because she's the only way we can get inside now.

LUCAS

Huh?

TESS

By coming out here, she's given us something we can use: *Her*.

LUCAS

'Her?'

TESS

We get our hands on her, what child wouldn't open the door for their mom? She's our ticket inside.

LUCAS

(beat)

She'll tell her kid not to open up.

TESS

I know, but I heard the girl talking. She wants to trust us.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy has the living room window in her crosshairs, just waiting for Tess and Lucas to show themselves.

She steals a glance at her oxygen gauge: **16 min**

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Tess and Lucas finish discussing their plan of attack.

TESS

You understand what you need to do?

LUCAS

Uh huh.

TESS

Good, go do it.

They sync their wristwatches, Lucas crawls out of the room.

**DINING ROOM**

Lucas slinks into the dining room and up to a screen door that leads out to the backyard.

From here, he sees the back of the BARN. If Amy keeps her sights on the house, she won't spot Lucas from this angle.

**LIVING ROOM**

Tess eyes her watch as seconds tick by: 10... 9... 8... 7...

**DINING ROOM**

Lucas is staring at his watch: 6...5...4...

**ON TESS'S WATCH, 3... 2... 1**

Tess raises a gun and FIRES TWO SHOTS... BANG...BANG!

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy STARTLES as two bullets hit the edge of the roof.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/DINING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas BURSTS out the backdoor towards the barn.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Tess clocks Lucas SPRINTING across the yard and FIRES another SHOT at the roof to keep Amy down.

**EXT. FARM - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas bolts across the dirt field, until he makes it safely to the back of the BARN.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy is reluctant to lift her head.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

**TESS'S POV:** Lucas delicately places one foot on the ladder.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy is still keeping her head low. Only we see the top of the ladder shimmy. Amy, however, is too preoccupied to notice.

**INT. FARMHOUSE/LIVING ROOM - THAT MOMENT**

Tess watches Lucas gradually inch his way up the ladder. He stops, just before reaching the top.

TESS  
AMY, I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I DON'T HAVE  
TIME FOR THIS SHIT!

**ON AMY**

Remaining still, trying to make out Tess's words.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I'M WALKING OUT. IF YOU WANNA SHOOT  
ME, GO AHEAD.

**ON TESS**

Taking a deep breath, before walking out into the open.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I'M STANDING RIGHT HERE.

**ON AMY**

Not believing it, but finding the courage to peek above the ledge. Tess is indeed standing in the middle of the yard.

Amy has Tess in her sights. Her finger is on the trigger, about to squeeze off a shot.

*CREAK...*

Amy blanches, whips around just in time to see Lucas swinging the butt of his shotgun into her face.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan has her gun trained on Micah. She looks at the MONITOR. Still a BLACK SCREEN. Amy forgot to remove the black tape.

In the reflection of the black screen, we see something move behind her.

Megan turns around, but she's grabbed by the hair and pulled to the floor. She hits the cement with a hard *THUD*.

Micah towers over her. Duct tape hanging off his free hands and gripping the scissors Amy used to cut open his EV suit.

MICAH  
Against the radiator.

Megan scurries away, but Micah grabs her foot and drags her kicking and screaming across the floor, over to the radiator.

MEGAN  
NO!! NO!!!

He binds her hands with duct tape, ties her to the radiator.

Micah digs into some bins until he finds TWINE. He wraps it around her neck, securing her entire body to the radiator.

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
It's hard... to breathe...

MICAH  
Yeah, I know the feeling.

Micah, a bloody mess, stands back. Megan is shaking with fear when -- a KNOCK on the other side of the shelter door.

TESS  
MEGAN. I NEED YOU TO LISTEN.

Megan's head snaps up.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I HAVE YOUR MOTHER.

MICAH  
Tess?

TESS  
(surprised)  
Micah?!

MICAH  
Yeah, I got free.

TESS  
Did you just say you got free?!

MICAH  
YEAH!

TESS  
WELL THEN WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?  
OPEN THE FUCKIN' DOOR.



Micah looks at the monitor, but it's still blacked out.

MICAH  
TAKE THE TAPE OFF. I WANNA BE SURE.

ON THE MONITOR: The tape is removed, revealing Tess and Lucas holding Amy hostage at gunpoint.

Megan SHUDDERS at the image.

MICAH (CONT'D)  
I'M COMING.

Micah goes to the door, unlocks the first deadbolt. But when he reaches for the second lock, he starts to wildly blink

MICAH (CONT'D)  
(to himself)  
Whoa...

Micah is having trouble with his balance and coordination.

MEGAN  
(cringing)  
Uh... Your back...

MICAH  
Wh... what?

**MEGAN'S POV:** Micah's entire back is DRENCHED with BLOOD. His tourniquet fell off during his fight.

MICAH (CONT'D)  
I'm...

Micah steadies himself. As he reaches for the lock, his eyes flutter. He falls back, SLAMMING his head into the floor.

He stares straight up. Eyes wide and vacant. He lets out a shivering breath and goes still.

MEGAN  
Oh my God...

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas has his gun on Amy. Tess KNOCKS on the door.

TESS  
Micah? What's going on?

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Blood rivers from the back of Micah's head and shoulder.

TESS (O.S.)  
MICAH?! ANSWER ME.

MEGAN  
HE'S DEAD.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Tess and Lucas exchange a look.

MEGAN (O.S.)  
HE JUST, HE COLLAPSED. HE WAS  
BLEEDING AND... HE'S DEAD.

Lucas shakes his head, laughing in disbelief.

LUCAS  
Bullshit.

TESS  
(to Amy)  
Tell her to open up.

AMY  
No.

Lucas MASHES Amy's face into the door.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan desperately tries to pull herself free, but all she does is slice her wrists on the sharp zip-ties and twine.

LUCAS (O.S.)  
I'm done with this shit! If this  
door isn't open in five seconds,  
your mom is dead.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
One... two...

MEGAN  
I can't open it! I'm tied up!

TESS  
Wait, what'd she say?

LUCAS  
THREE!

MEGAN (O.S.)  
YOUR FRIEND TIED ME UP!

TESS  
Lucas, shut up, I can't hear what  
she's saying--

LUCAS  
FOUR... FIVE...

Tess rips the gun from Lucas.

MEGAN  
DON'T SHOOT, I'M TIED UP, I SWEAR  
TO GOD, I CAN'T MOVE.

LUCAS  
She's fuckin' with us. She ain't  
tied up.

MEGAN  
PLEASE, BELIEVE ME. I SWEAR. I  
CAN'T MOVE.

Tess looks at Amy who has concern in her eyes.

AMY  
Megan? It's mom. Tell me, can you  
really not get to the door?

MEGAN  
I SWEAR, MOM. I SWEAR.

TESS  
What's the key code.

AMY  
6, 2, 9, 8, 0, 5

Lucas goes to the keypad, but forgets the code.

LUCAS  
Again, but slower.

AMY  
It won't work. It takes dual  
authentication from outside. You  
need a keycard.

LUCAS  
(not believing)  
Just tell me the code again.

AMY  
6, 2, 9, 8, 0, 5

Lucas enters the code, pulls the lever. Locked.

LUCAS  
Where's the keycard?

AMY  
Inside the shelter.

Lucas frisks Amy, searches inside her pockets.

AMY (CONT'D)  
In case I was caught, I didn't want  
you to get in there.

Lucas jams his gun into Amy's cheek.

TESS  
There has to be another way in.

Amy shakes her head, "no."

TESS (CONT'D)  
No? Well you better figure out a  
way, because if you don't, how's  
your kid gonna eat, huh? It'll only  
be a matter of time until--

AMY  
I KNOW.

Amy looks off, contemplating something.

TESS  
What? What're you thinking?

*BLEEP-BLEEP-BLEEP* -- Amy's O<sub>2</sub> gauge sounds with an alert. She  
completely forgot about it: **5 min**

AMY  
*Oh shit.*

TESS  
Amy, listen to me. Think. Is there  
another way inside?

AMY  
I -- I don't --

TESS  
Think. You have five minutes to  
save your kid.

AMY  
Okay, yes -- Maybe -- But -- But --

TESS

But what?

AMY

But neither of us have enough oxygen to do it.

TESS

To do what?

AMY

There's another keycard -- But it's not here -- It's half a day's hike. We'd never make it with the oxygen we have left.

MEGAN (O.S.)

MOM? WHAT'S GOING ON?

*BLEEP-BLEEP, 4 min*

TESS

If I can keep you breathing, can you get us that keycard?

AMY

(beat)

Keeping me breathing is the only way to find out.

Tess races upstairs. Amy and Lucas follow.

**EXT. FARM - CONTINUOUS**

Tess sprints to the shopping cart of supplies. Inside are three oxygen cylinders.

TESS

Our *last* tanks. Each with five hours of oxygen.

Tess turns Amy around, disconnects her empty tank, and connects a fresh tank. Amy's O<sub>2</sub> gauge jumps: **5hr**

AMY

...thank you... thank you... *But...*

LUCAS

'But?' Of course there's a 'but.'

TESS

Let her talk.

AMY

The place we need to go is a 16 hour walk, round trip. Even if we gave one person all three tanks, they still wouldn't make it there and back...

Then, something occurs to Amy. She rushes into the barn.

**INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS**

Amy slides the tarp off the VEHICLE. It's a dented and chipped hunk of metal. An ELECTRIC CAR on it's last legs.

TESS

When was the last time you used this thing?

AMY

I make sure to check the charge once a month, but...

Amy removes an ALUMINUM HEAT SHIELD from the windshield. She sits in the driver's seat, presses the ignition. Nothing.

LUCAS

*Shit!*

But she tries again... *click, click, click...*

*HUMMMMMM...*

They all look at each other, excited, before the gravity of the situation takes back over.

AMY

It's about a thirty minute drive. We'll see how long the car can last. The solar panels will absorb the heat, so maybe we'll be okay.

TESS

Maybe...?

AMY

Thirty minutes to get there. One hour to get the key. Thirty minutes to get back. A little over two hours in total, if we're lucky.

TESS

Getting lucky is our only chance.

Tess grabs an O<sub>2</sub> cylinder for herself, places it in the back.

TESS (CONT'D)  
So, where the hell are we going?

AMY  
I'll tell you, but only after I say  
goodbye to Megan.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan is still fighting to get herself loose.

AMY (O.S.)  
Megan. I'm going to take care of  
this. But I have to go somewhere.

MEGAN  
What?! Where?!

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Amy hesitates to answer.

AMY  
I can't get into it, but, I think I  
know where there might be another  
key. But... Just...

MEGAN (O.S.)  
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

AMY  
It's going to be okay. I can't -- I  
just have to go -- I love you.

Amy can't bear her daughter's pleas anymore, she needs to go.

MEGAN (O.S.)  
MOM!!! WAIT!!! MOM!!!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan doesn't get an answer. She stares helplessly ahead.

**INT. BARN - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy digs inside a storage bin and pulls out HIKING GEAR:  
BUNGEE CORDS, ROPE, CARABINERS, and a CLIMBING HARNESS.

Amy tosses them in the backseat, then gets behind the wheel. Confused by all the gear, Tess hops into the passenger seat.

TESS

Where are we going with all this?

AMY

The last place I ever wanted to go.  
We're going to see my husband.

Tess's head snaps up. Amy drives off.

**EXT. STREET - DAY**

The hot sun beams down on the car as it glides down a main strip. Everything is abandoned and sun-baked.

Fallen, brittle, and leafless trees are toppled over. Some of them in the middle of the road, which Amy avoids.

**INT. AMY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

Amy cautiously navigates the terrain.

TESS

Is Joel still alive?

Amy shakes her head, "no."

TESS (CONT'D)

But we're going to see him?

AMY

We're going to see what's left of him.

TESS

Enough off this cryptic shit. What happened to him?

AMY

...Five months ago, Joel's father died while they were outside performing maintenance on the oxygen generator. The next day, Joel left to bury him. Joel never came back.

Amy maneuvers around a down tree.



AMY (CONT'D)

That night, I found a note under my pillow...

Amy looks at Tess, debating if she should go on.

AMY (CONT'D)

Apparently, Joel always knew his invention couldn't sustain everyone forever. Even without his father, the system was still pushing too hard and would eventually fail. It was only a matter of time. The way Joel figured, his presence was cutting the lives of his family in half. He couldn't figure out how to optimize the machine.

Amy looks at Tess, lets a glimmer of hope slip out.

AMY (CONT'D)

Maybe when you get down there, you'll figure out what he couldn't.

TESS

Maybe.

AMY

But I never told Megan...

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan is still tied up.

AMY (V.O.)

*Even though I get what Joel did, he gave up. I couldn't let Megan think giving up was ever an option.*

Megan tries to kick over a bottle of water so she can drink, but she's unsuccessful.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas is sitting with his back against the wall.

AMY (V.O.)

*After burying his father, Joel decided to go to a place that reminded him of better times. In fact, one of his favorite times. That's where we're going.*

**INT. AMY'S CAR - THAT MOMENT**

Amy shakes her head in disbelief.

AMY

But, for being such a smart guy, he was also pretty stupid. He forgot he had the only other keycard on him. So... I'm hoping that keycard is still with him.

TESS

Or what's left of him.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan surveys the room, her eyes land on the stereo. She stretches out her toe and presses a button. The CLASSICAL MUSIC she grudgingly listened to on Thanksgiving plays.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas lifts his head after hearing the music.

LUCAS

Hey! D'you get free?!

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

Megan STARTLES.

MEGAN

My toe did. I hit the stereo.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Lucas shakes his head, not sure what to believe. *But what choice does he have?* Lucas backs down, let's the song play.

LUCAS

It's good to sit at least.

Lucas grimaces as he massages his boot.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Been on my feet for three days.

They both sit in silence, letting the music wash over them. Under normal conditions, Megan couldn't turn this music off fast enough. But right now, it somehow gives her comfort.

**EXT. ROAD - EVENING**

The sun is setting.

Amy and Tess pull up next to a clearing. Amy parks the car and gets out. They check their O<sub>2</sub> levels: **4hr 31min**

**EXT. NIAGARA GORGE - NIGHT**

Lugging the hiking gear, they reach a clearing. The same cliff we saw from earlier. Amy stares at the open space...

***FLASHBACK***

*Joel takes Megan out of the baby carrier. He holds up his phone and takes a selfie. They all smile, one happy family.*

**PRESENT DAY**

Amy looks over the ledge. No waterfall anymore. Completely dry. It's a few hundred feet down and pitch black.

TESS  
He's down *there*?

AMY  
It's what he said in the note.

Dubious, Tess eyeballs Amy.

AMY (CONT'D)  
One of us goes down there, the other stays up here with the line.

Amy hammers two BOLTS into the rock and threads a bungee cord through. Amy tugs on the cord, then hands it to Tess.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Careful not to get rope burn.

Amy puts on the CLIMBING HARNESS, tethers herself to the cord, and affixes a carabiner and brake strand.

With her back to the clearing, she makes sure the rig is holding her weight. When she's satisfied it's secure --

She kicks off, rappelling down, down, way down into the dark until --

Her boots hit the rocky bottom.

She flips on a light attached to the helmet of her EV suit and scans the area. Nothing, just rocks and dirt.

**AT THE TOP OF THE CLIFF**

Tess shines a flashlight down, but she can't see anything.

**BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF**

Amy sweeps her light over the ground...

...*CRUNCH*...

Amy has stepped on something... She shines her light on...

A MUMMIFIED CORPSE inside an EV suit.

Amy reels back and looks away.

Breath hastening, she takes a moment to collect herself, then slowly cranes her head back at the corpse.

Overwhelmed, she stares down at what's left of Joel. Amy is frozen in this moment, overcome with emotion...

Then, she remembers the task at hand. She fights back tears and inches forward... kneels next to Joel's corpse...

She spots a HANDGUN, the one Joel had when he left the shelter. She pockets it, continues to search for the keycard.

Amy, queasy, feels inside his pockets.

**AT THE TOP OF THE CLIFF**

Tess shines her flashlight over the ledge and waves her hand in front of it, creating a strobe effect.

**BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF**

Amy notices the flickering light. She shines her light up and signals back.

Amy continues to dig through his pockets, starting to panic when she can't find it.

Then, Amy sees his backpack a few feet away. She tears it open, supplies spill out. She fans them out when --

She sees it. Amy snatches up the KEYCARD. She holds it, hands shaking with adrenaline. She wants to cheer, shout, cry...

But she keeps it together, puts the keycard in her pocket and zips it up. Amy stands, looks down at her husband's remains.

Amy starts to tear up... But needs to push on...

**WITH TESS**

The cord RATTLES, indicating that Amy is climbing up. Tess shines her flashlight on Amy as she scales the mountain.

Amy GRUNTS LOUDLY as she pulls herself up. Rappel ascension is clearly taking more muscle and focus than rappelling down.

TESS  
You get them?

Amy can't answer, keeps climbing, BREATHING FAST and HEAVY, on a mission -- The CORD SNAPS.

TESS (CONT'D)  
NO!

Tess GRASPS the cord, but it SLIPS through her hands and she watches it disappear over the cliff.

**ON TESS**

Cupping her mouth as she slowly approaches the ledge. She looks over to see...

**AMY**

Hugging the side of the mountain for dear life. Her foot wedged in a foothold and her fingertips latched onto a rock.

Amy shimmies over to a rock where there's enough room to stand. She lets go of the mountain.

AMY  
(heaving)  
I'm okay -- I'm okay --

Amy squeezes her hands. She looks up at Tess, she's at least TWENTY FEET from the top.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Throw down another cord!

Tess picks up a bungee cord.

TESS  
Did you get the key?!

AMY  
Y-yes.

Tess drops the cord to Amy.

AMY (CONT'D)

You won't be able to pull me up by yourself. I'd end up pulling you over. You need to secure it.

TESS

Okay. But first show me the key.

Amy takes out the keycard. Tess can't contain herself.

TESS (CONT'D)

*You did it!* Quick, tie the key to the cord, let me pull it up first.

Amy glares at Tess, *No fucking way!*

TESS (CONT'D)

We can't lose that key. If this cord snaps like the other, you'll fall and take the key with you.

Amy considers the prospect.

TESS (CONT'D)

I promise to get you up here, but the key is most important. Think about Megan.

Amy lowers her head. Whether Tess is telling the truth or lying, she's right. The key is what's most important.

Amy slides the cord through a keychain on the keycard.

Tess carefully pulls it up and unties the key. She holds it in her hand, the most beautiful thing in the world.

TESS (CONT'D)

Keep holding on.

**AMY'S POV:** Tess moves out of view. Seconds past as Amy looks up at nothing. All she hears is Tess SHUFFLING about.

AMY

HEY!

Tess comes back into view and tosses the cord down to Amy.

TESS

I was securing it. Feel.

Amy tugs on the cord. It feels secure. Amy looks up at Tess as if to say, *okay, I got no other choice.*

Amy tethers herself to the cord... and climbs... Never taking her eyes off Tess as she pulls herself up...

*7 feet away... 6 feet... 5 feet... She's within Tess's reach.*

As Amy extends her hand, her foot slips off a rock --

AMY SWINGS INTO THE MOUNTAIN, CRUSHING HER LEG INTO THE SIDE.

AMY

AHHHHHH!

Tess grips Amy's hand.

TESS

Climb. C'mon! I got you!

Amy winces when she puts weight on her LEFT LEG.

Tess pulls with all her strength until Amy reaches the top and claws her way over the cliff.

Breathless, Tess and Amy look at each other, elated and verging on tears.

AMY

Thank you.

Amy tries to stand, but her knee buckles under the pressure.

TESS

Let's just get to the car.

Tess lifts up Amy, and helps her to the car. Tess eases Amy into the passenger seat.

Tess gets behind the wheel and starts the car. She hits the peddle, peels out, but the car stalls after going ten feet.

Tess tries the car again, but it doesn't start. *FUCK!* Amy checks the battery light. Dead.

Amy looks at her oxygen gauge: **4hr**

Tess also checks her oxygen gauge: **4hr**

In agony, Amy looks down at her injured leg. Then, Amy looks up at Tess. With resignation in her voice, Amy says:

AMY

We made good time on the climb...  
So if you run, you might make it.

TESS

No, come on. You're walking.

Tess gets out, runs to the passenger side, and pulls Amy out.

Tess drapes Amy's arm over her shoulder and tries to jog, but Amy's leg buckles again and they both fall.

Tess struggles to pick her up, but Amy throws her off.

TESS (CONT'D)

You're not even going to try?

AMY

You only have four hours! You'll barely make it as is. You can't wait for me. I'll slow you down and neither of us will make it.

Torn, Tess looks at the path ahead, then back at Amy.

AMY (CONT'D)

Just promise me, you won't hurt my daughter.

TESS

...I promise.

AMY

Are you a mother?

TESS

...I was.

Pain in Tess's eyes.

AMY

Now go. Fast.

TESS

I'll come back for you if I can.

AMY

That's nice of you to say.

Tess runs off, disappearing into the dark. Once Tess is out of sight, Amy curls up and bawls.

Amy starts to SHIVER as the temperature falls. She crawls into the car. Tries the ignition again. Nothing.



**EXT. ROAD - MOMENTS LATER**

Tess is running her ass off, FOGGING up her mask. She looks at her tank: **3hrs 50min**

**EXT. CLIFF SIDE - MOMENTS LATER**

Amy is still behind the wheel. She reaches into her pocket and pulls out the photo of her, Joel, and Megan.

She props it up on the dashboard. Through the window is the new, bleak mountain view. But Amy remains fixed on the photo.

**CUT TO BLACK:**

**3 HOURS LATER****EXT. ROAD - NIGHT**

Tess, bone-tired and FREEZING from her prolonged exposure to the PLUNGING TEMPERATURE, is jogging down the road.

She looks at her oxygen gauge: **50 min**

Her lungs are burning, her muscles are fucking shot. Her legs give out and she drops to her knees, heaving inside her mask.

She scans the area, no idea where she is. She shines her light into the dark and... *Wait, is that the farmhouse?!*

Tess wills herself to her feet and sprints toward it.

**INT. STAIRWELL - MOMENTS LATER**

Lucas HEARS FOOTSTEPS and raises his gun as Tess comes stumbling down the stairs.

Tess collapses into his arms out of sheer exhaustion. They hug each other tight.

LUCAS

The keycard?

Out of breath, she takes the keycard out of her pocket.

Lucas rips it out of her hand. He punches in the code and places the keycard above the keypad. *CLICK.*

LUCAS (CONT'D)

FUCK YEAH!

TESS  
 (catching her breath)  
 Amy... got hurt...

LUCAS  
 (not caring)  
 That sucks.

TESS  
 I need to go back for her.

LUCAS  
 What? We need to get you in there  
 and look at that machine.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan is sleeping when she HEARS the door GROAN open.

MEGAN  
 Mom?

Tess and Lucas hurry inside. Lucas quickly shuts the door after himself and locks it. Megan's face falls.

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
 Where's my mom?

Tess and Lucas lift their masks and slip off their O<sub>2</sub> packs. *After 3 days on the road, breathing never felt so damn good.*

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
*Answer me! Where is she?!*

Tess kneels beside Megan, goes to untie her, but stops.

TESS  
 Your mother hurt her leg when she climbed up from getting the key--

MEGAN  
 (totally confused)  
 Her leg? Climbed up? From where?  
 What the hell are you talking about? *Where the hell is she?!*

TESS  
 I'm trying to tell you--

MEGAN  
 Wait -- That's my dad's key.

Tess follows Megan's gaze to the keycard.

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
How'd you get my dad's key?

LUCAS  
Tess, come look at this thing.

Lucas runs his hand over the O<sub>2</sub> generator, marveling at it.

TESS  
(to Lucas)  
Hang on.  
(to Megan)  
I wish I wasn't the one telling you this, but... your dad knew this machine couldn't sustain all of you for as long as he wanted it to.

LUCAS  
What? What's that mean?

TESS  
(ignoring Lucas)  
He left here so you and your mom could live longer. She just didn't want to tell you because--

MEGAN  
This is bullshit.

LUCAS  
Tess, stop wastin' time.

TESS  
Give me one second, Lucas.

MEGAN  
I don't believe you. You killed her. Probably him too. Didn't you?

TESS  
No. Trust me. She may still be alive. I'm going back for her. Does this thing refill tanks?

Tess motions to the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

MEGAN  
Yeah.

LUCAS  
Jesus Christ, you're not going anywhere, Tess.

TESS  
I promised I would.

LUCAS  
What about your promise to our friends back home? You're not risking your life, again.

TESS  
Lucas--

LUCAS  
'Member why we came here?! We came here so you could look at this thing and see if you can build another. And if you can't--

TESS  
I'll look when I come back.

Lucas aims his gun at Megan.

TESS (CONT'D) MEGAN  
LUCAS! OH MY GOD!

LUCAS  
(to Tess)  
I can't kill you, but I can kill the reason you want to go back for that bitch. Now look at that thing!

TESS  
Okay, just put the gun down.

LUCAS  
I'm not gonna ask again. LOOK!

Tess kneels next to the O<sub>2</sub> generator and starts inspecting it. She gently removes the protective plexiglass.

TESS  
Screwdriver? Phillips?

Megan, petrified, motions with her head to a tool bin. Lucas rips it off the shelf, tools spill out.

Tess picks up a screwdriver, unscrews a metal panel. Inside is a mass of color-coded wires, a tangled mess of confusion.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I need to take it apart to really figure this out.

LUCAS

Then take it apart. Do what you need to do.

TESS

But it takes time.

LUCAS

We have time.

TESS

Amy doesn't.

LUCAS

Are you outta your mind? Can you replicate it?

TESS

I don't know.

LUCAS

Holy shit. Three fuckin' days we hike here. *Three*. We gave you everything. Food. Water. Air. And now that you're here, you wanna leave?

TESS

It's the right thing to do.

LUCAS

I'm putting an end to this.

Lucas aims his gun at Megan.

TESS

I CAN'T REPLICATE IT.

Lucas stops.

TESS (CONT'D)

I can't fix it.

LUCAS

You barely looked at it.

TESS

I'm... I'm not an engineer.

On Lucas, "WHAT?!"

TESS (CONT'D)

I'm not an engineer.

LUCAS

...I heard you. Now explain what the fuck it means.

TESS

I lied to all of you. I lied so that I'd be able to come here.

LUCAS

No, no, then how'd you know all this shit about her dad?

Tess looks at Megan, reluctant to say.

TESS

I would listen to her over a radio.

LUCAS

*Radio?*

TESS

I have a HAM radio. I kept it hidden from everyone. And when Megan would talk...

(to Megan)

I would listen. I waited until I had enough information I could use.

Megan's face fills with anger and fear.

LUCAS

Everyone back home, who's life depends on you, *you* lied.

Lucas can't believe what he's hearing. He slumps into a chair, all hope draining from his being.

TESS

I'm sorry. To both of you.

Lucas raises his gun.

And shoots Tess in the head. Her body drops in front of Megan. Tess's vacant eyes stare back.

Megan SCREAMS.

MEGAN

WHOA! WHOA! OH MY GOD!

Lucas, like a zombie, shuffles to the couch, and plops down.

LUCAS

You can't trust anyone, can you?

He looks at Megan who is hyperventilating.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I'm not going to hurt you, but I can't untie you just yet. You seem a little... unstable at the moment. And I just don't want you to do anything stupid. Okay?

But Megan is in too much shock to answer, unable to take her eyes off Tess's lifeless body.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Let me fix that.

Lucas rips the red checkered tablecloth off the table and drapes it over Tess. Splotches of blood instantly soak in.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Eh, good enough... now, I assume you're wondering, 'What's his plan?' Fair question. And from my point of view, it's pretty simple.

Lucas unstraps his O<sub>2</sub> pack and unzips his EV suit. Underneath is a bodysuit with cooling tubes snaking all around.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

The place I was staying at has a failing system. Tess was the only one who said she could fix it. Tess can't fix it. And now I'm here, with a working system. So, it appears to me like you have a new roommate.

Lucas winces as he slowly peels off his blood-caked socks. His bare feet are beet red, raw and full of blisters.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Got any aloe?

MEGAN

H-hey... I--I know you're upset...

Lucas snickers, *no shit*. He stands and walks on his heels to the first aid kit.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

But all I want, is to get my mom.

LUCAS

Your mom's dead... Sorry.

MEGAN

Tess said she could be alive?

Lucas scoffs at the idea as he points at Tess.

LUCAS

*Her?* Miss Engineer over there?

You're gonna believe her?

(yelling at Tess)

Miss Just Get Me There And I'll Fix Everything!

MEGAN

Just untie me. Gimme a chance to--

LUCAS

You're not leaving. Besides, you're the only one who knows how this shelter functions. I'd be a fool to let you go until I know how everything operates. You're the tour guide and I'd be lost without you.

MEGAN

Please, let me--

Lucas slams his fist on the table.

LUCAS

Megan! I'm trying *real* hard to keep things civil. Don't make me...

Just... I need quiet. I need to think and I need quiet. It's been a long week and...

Lucas lays down on the couch and closes his eyes.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

...and I'm fuckin' *done*.

**EXT. CLIFF SIDE - MORNING**

The sun is coming up. Amy's car is still where we left it.

**INT. AMY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

Amy stares blankly ahead. At first we think she might be dead, but then she looks at her O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **39 minutes**

She watches the sun on the rise. Then, something on the ground catches her eye outside the car.



She opens the door, swings her injured leg out, and limps toward something.

TILT DOWN to a lone GREEN WEED popping out of the dirt.

Amy holds it gently in her hand. *If there's plant life here, there might be oxygen in the atmosphere.*

Amy takes off her mask and tries to inhale, but she starts GASPING. The air is too thin to breathe.

But this weed means there's hope... *Maybe the planet is healing and replenishing itself?*

As the sun climbs higher in the sky, it doesn't take long for it to heat up. Amy is struck with an idea.

Amy crawls to the trunk of her car and pulls out an aluminum heat shield that was in the windshield.

She holds it up to the sun and reflects the rays onto the solar panels on the roof.

With her climbing gear and ropes, Amy rigs the shield so that it will continually direct sunlight onto the solar panels.

She gets into the driver's seat and presses the ignition button. It turns on, but the battery level is only at 2%.

AMY

Come on... Get me to ten.

The car battery ticks up to 3%

#### **EXT. BARN - DAY**

The access hatch is pushed open from the inside. Lucas emerges, the keycard dangling from his belt.

He climbs out, then reaches back into the stairwell, and begins to drag something heavy.

He pulls Tess's body out of the stairwell and across the dirt, leaving a trail of blood.

#### **EXT. BARN - MOMENTS LATER**

Lucas drops Tess's body next to Micah's. He has the gardening shovel in his hands, then looks up at the hot sun.

*Is it even worth the trouble of burying them?* Lucas shrugs, fuck it, and trudges off.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Lucas stomps back inside, shuts the door, and locks it. Bloody handprints are smeared on his EV suit.

He lifts his mask and brushes dirt off himself. He looks at a still tied up and stoned-face Megan.

LUCAS  
Better, right? They were shitty  
roommates.

Lucas laughs at his own joke.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I have a good sense of humor.  
You'll learn that about me.

Megan just nods.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
People are always telling me how  
funny I am.

MEGAN  
(beat)  
Yes, you are funny.

LUCAS  
That's what people tell me.

MEGAN  
Where were you staying again,  
before here?

LUCAS  
Claremont Farms. You hungry?

Lucas opens a cupboard, pulls out a can of soup.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Ho-ly shit. You guys got Campbell's  
Chunky style? Where's the can  
opener?

MEGAN  
Claremont Farms? That's like, over  
fifty miles from here?

LUCAS  
Yes. Can opener?

Lucas opens a drawer.

MEGAN

And you feel okay about letting them die?

Lucas slams the drawer shut.

LUCAS

I'll tell you something. And listen up, because this applies to you too. *To hell with everyone else.* Do I feel bad for them back there? Sure. Did anyone else raise their hand saying they'd escort that lying bitch here? No! They didn't. So, screw everyone else. Now... where the hell is the can opener?!

Lucas stares at Megan for a long BEAT --

The LIGHTS GO OUT and the ELECTRICITY SHUTS DOWN... TOTAL DARKNESS... But the WHIR of the O<sub>2</sub> generator remains...

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Goddamnit. Now what?!

MEGAN

This happens sometimes.

LUCAS

Where's a flashlight. I can't see sh--

The SOUND of Lucas BUMPING into furniture.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

SHIT! AWWWWW!

MEGAN

The O<sub>2</sub> generator is running on reserves. We have about fifteen minutes before we're screwed. We need to go outside. It could be the solar panels.

LUCAS

(breathing, trying to remain calm)  
Okay... Where's a flashlight.

MEGAN

There should be one by the door. Use the wall as a guide.

Lucas stumbles around in the dark. Eventually, we HEAR a click and a flashlight go on.

LUCAS

Finally.

Lucas shines it at Megan, but she's not there. The radiator where she was tied up is empty.

Lucas frantically shines the light around.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Come on now, don't do this.

Lucas creeps into the hydroponic garden room, shines the lights on the plants and micro-greens.

He moves into Megan's bedroom. He shines his light across the room. Looks under her bed. Nothing.

Lucas stands up. Only we see a figure come out of the dark, CHARGING at him from behind.

At the last second, Lucas HEARS the FOOTSTEPS, turns and sees Megan charging at him with her SOFTBALL BAT.

Megan SWINGS, he BLOCKS it with his forearm. Lucas SCREAMS.

She winds up and swings at Lucas's head -- WHOOSH -- Lucas ducks at the last second -- He grabs her wrist and twists.

MEGAN

AWWWW!

Megan drops the bat. Lucas throws her into the wall.

LUCAS

Is this how it's gonna be? Huh? If so, I swear, I'll end it right now. More resources for me.

Lucas lets go of Megan. She falls to the floor, gasping.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

You wanna live, prove you're worth keepin' around. You said this blackout happens from time to time? Fix it.

#### **MOMENTS LATER**

By the door, Megan is suited up in an EV suit and O<sub>2</sub> pack.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Wait, one second.

Lucas abruptly unhooks a tube from her backpack. O<sub>2</sub> SPEWS OUT.

MEGAN  
What the hell?

Megan's O<sub>2</sub> gauge plunges.

LUCAS  
Keeping you on a leash. This way,  
you know I mean it when I say you  
only have fifteen minutes.

When Megan's O<sub>2</sub> gauge gets to **15 minutes** he reconnects it.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
You have fifteen minutes.

Lucas pushes Megan out the door.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

Megan runs up the staircase.

**EXT. FARM - CONTINUOUS**

Megan hurries into the barn and grabs a ladder.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan climbs onto the roof.

She inspects the solar panels and their connections.

*That's weird, one has been disconnected?*

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)  
Honey.

Megan nearly jumps out of her skin. She whips around to see Amy, huddled in a corner, holding her leg in pain.

Megan runs over to her mom and leaps into her arms. If there was time to cry, they would.

AMY  
Are you okay?

MEGAN

He killed Tess. You were right. She was lying to us, she was lying to him even, she wasn't an engineer.

AMY

Then...? How'd she know about dad, about the generator...?

MEGAN

The HAM radio. I would...  
 (knows she messed up)  
 I would try to talk to Dad and...  
 Sometimes I said too much and... I just wanted to talk to someone...

Amy hangs her head.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

I know, I screwed up, I'm sorry --

AMY

No, it's my fault for not listening to you. And I should've told you about dad. I just, didn't want you to give up. But that doesn't matter right now. Nothing matters except protecting our home.

Megan looks at her O<sub>2</sub> meter: **3 min**

Amy checks her O<sub>2</sub> levels: **8 min**

AMY (CONT'D)

I have an idea.

Amy reconnects the solar panel.

**INT. SHELTER/MAIN CHAMBER - THAT MOMENT**

The lights and O<sub>2</sub> generator turn on, making Lucas grin.

**EXT. BARN ROOF - THAT MOMENT**

Amy gives Megan the HANDGUN she found with Joel's body.

AMY

You can do this.

Megan nods. Her O<sub>2</sub> gauge reads: **2 min**

Amy looks at hers: **7 min**

Amy and Megan share a look.

AMY (CONT'D)  
I love you, honey.

MEGAN  
I love you, too.

Megan takes off running.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Megan runs to the door, waves at the security camera.

LUCAS (O.S.)  
Who is it?

MEGAN  
Very funny. Let me in. I've only  
got two minutes.

LUCAS (O.S.)  
Yeah, I don't think I need you  
anymore.

MEGAN  
What're you talking about? Lemme in!

LUCAS (O.S.)  
I'm sorry, but I'd have better luck  
on my own then worrying about you  
slitting my throat in my sleep.

Megan POUNDS on the door.

**EXT. FARM - THAT MOMENT**

Amy is at the top of the stairwell, peeking down. She can  
HEAR Megan YELLING. Amy inches closer to get a better angle.

**INT. STAIRWELL - THAT MOMENT**

Megan's O<sub>2</sub> meter beeps: **30 seconds**

MEGAN  
Open the door. I'll listen. I  
promise.

**10 seconds...**

MEGAN (CONT'D)  
Listen to me for christ-sake.

**5 seconds...**

Megan helplessly watches the seconds tick by... **4... 3... 2... 1...** She takes a deep breath...

**BLEEP! BLEEP! BLEEP!**

Eyes wide with terror, Megan BANGS her fists on the door.

**EXT. FARM - THAT MOMENT**

Amy peers down the stairwell when a FIGURE emerges from the dark, running up the stairs. It's a fully panicking Megan.

AMY  
W-what's happening?

Megan shakes her head that she can't talk, that she's out of O<sub>2</sub> and holding her breath.

Without a moment's thought, Amy takes off her own O<sub>2</sub> pack and gives it to her daughter.

Megan shakes her head, "no", but Amy isn't backing down. Amy takes a deep inhalation of air, then gives Megan the mask.

Megan looks at the O<sub>2</sub> gauge: **5 min**

Amy signals to Megan to stay put and limps to the ladder.

**ON MEGAN**

Watching Amy climb on top of the roof, using her one good leg, pulling herself up by her arms.

**ON AMY**

Going for the solar panels and disconnecting them.

**INSIDE THE SHELTER**

Lucas is still at the door when all the lights go out.

LUCAS  
*Bitch...*



**ON TOP OF THE BARN**

Amy runs to the ladder, but trips and falls. She goes to get up, but her EV suit pant leg is caught on a piece of metal.

**ON MEGAN**

Moving to the bottom of the ladder.

MEGAN

MOM?!

**ON AMY**

In a frenzy, trying to free herself, face turning red as she holds her breath.

Amy pulls her leg free, ripping open her EV suit. The extreme heat from the sun instantly burns her exposed skin.

Amy holds in a SCREAM, refusing to let air escape her body. She covers the tear with her gloved hand.

**ON MEGAN**

Watching Amy unsteadily place her foot on the ladder. One hand is on the ladder, the other hand covers her leg.

**ON AMY**

Halfway down the ladder she starts getting woozy. Her hand slips off a rung... Amy falls backwards..

She lands hard on her back. Megan runs over, unhooks the O<sub>2</sub> tube from her mask and connects it to her mom's.

Megan violently shakes her mother until Amy's eyes peel open. She stares up at her daughter.

Megan places her mother's hand on the rip in her EV suit, then runs inside the --

**BARN**

Megan races over to a gardening bin and sifts through it.

**FARM**

Megan runs back outside, holding a roll of green GARDEN TAPE. She wraps tape around the rip in Amy's EV suit when --

They hear the SHELTER DOOR OPENING.

**IN THE STAIRWELL**

The nozzle of a shotgun sticks out of a crack in the door.

Lucas pokes his head out, looks up the stairwell, only sees the open hatch. Lucas closes the shelter door behind him.

He cautiously walks up the stairs, emerging into the light.

**OUTSIDE**

The first thing he sees is Megan, face down in the dirt. He moves toward her body, reaches out to touch her -- BOOM!

Blood bursts from Lucas's shoulder. He whips around to see Amy, firing the handgun at him.

Lucas raises his shotgun to FIRE -- BANG! It's kicked up in the air by Megan who is wearing the O<sub>2</sub> pack.

Amy moves in for the final shot and *CLICK*. Out of bullets.

Lucas raises his gun, but Megan KICKS him in the groin. He rolls over in pain.

Amy sees the KEYCARD in his pocket and snatches it from him.

Amy and Megan make a break for the stairwell.

**STAIRWELL**

Amy and Megan, both out of O<sub>2</sub>, fly down the stairs to the door. Megan punches in the code -- Amy uses the keycard.

Megan pushes the door open, they run inside the shelter. Amy turns to shut the door when it's RAMMED OPENED by Lucas.

All three fall into the SHELTER. The door SHUTS behind them.

**SHELTER**

The electricity is still out and it's dark. The only air left is whatever the O<sub>2</sub> generator has in reserves.

Lucas crawls on top of Amy, wraps his hands around her neck. But Megan pulls Lucas off by his O<sub>2</sub> pack.

Megan rips the O<sub>2</sub> pack from Lucas and pulls off his mask. He turns around, searching for Megan, but can't see her.

AMY  
Put on his mask.

Amy is by the O<sub>2</sub> generator and claws her way up it, using it to help her get on her feet.

Lucas stands up as well, with a shotgun aimed at Amy. But if he fires, he will hit the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

AMY (CONT'D)

Put the gun down -- You shoot me --  
you'll hit the generator --

LUCAS

Move away then --

AMY

Everything you're doing right now --  
I understand it -- You're scared --

But behind her back, Amy turns a dial on the O<sub>2</sub> generator.

LUCAS

SHUT UP. GET AWAY FROM THAT THING.

AMY

When I was outside, I saw something  
growing. It was only a weed, but  
with time to study it, maybe I can--

LUCAS

Bullshit. You didn't see anything.

AMY

I swear. And if you put the gun  
down, we can talk. We can, I don't  
know, we can work something out--

LUCAS

You're so full of shit! EVERYONE,  
EVERYONE IS... is...

Lucas starts to blink and slur his speech.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Wha... wha...

He stumbles, catches himself on the couch.

Amy is also suddenly unsteady on her feet. She falls back against the wall, slides down.

**AMY'S POV:** Staring at the dials and knobs on the O<sub>2</sub> generator  
It's emitting 100 percent, pure oxygen.

While talking to Lucas, Amy turned up the amount of oxygen being pumped into the room to its highest level.

Amy and Lucas, who ARE NOT wearing masks, have been inhaling pure oxygen and are succumbing to oxygen toxicity.

Megan, who IS wearing a mask and inhaling the correct amount of oxygen, emerges from the dark and sprints to her mother.

**ON LUCAS**

Trying to stand.

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Amy's body is limp. Megan shares her oxygen mask with Amy.

**ON LUCAS**

Trying to focus, blindly groping the floor for the shotgun.

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Megan drags her mother out of the room as a wobbly Lucas grips the shotgun.

MEGAN

DON'T SHOOT. THERE'S TOO MUCH  
OXYGEN. IT'LL EXPLODE.

Lucas raises the shotgun.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

YOU'LL KILL US ALL.

Lucas doesn't seem to understand or care what is being said. All Megan can do is get the fuck out of here.

**ON LUCAS**

As he tries to follow them.

**ON MEGAN AND AMY**

As they hobble out the door and up the stairwell.

**ON LUCAS**

As he tries to climb the steps.

**ON AMY AND MEGAN**

Clawing their way out of the ACCESS HATCH.

**ON LUCAS**

As he reaches the top of the steps. Blinking wildly, he sees Amy and Megan are running to the farmhouse.

He takes aim. But his eyes roll back in his head. Lucas falls backwards, and tumbles down the stairwell.

Lucas lands HARD on his back, directly in front of the SHELTER, the SHOTGUN GOES OFF --

In a split second, the SPARK from the GUN BLAST reacts with the overabundance of oxygen inside the SHELTER --

**BOOOOOOOOOOM!**

**EXT. FARM - THAT MOMENT**

Megan and Amy fall forward as the GROUND SHAKES from the EXPLOSION under their feet.

Once Amy has her bearings, she stands up in pain. Sharing the O<sub>2</sub> cylinder, they trudge over to the barn.

**INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS**

The door has blown off into the MAIN CHAMBER.

**INT. SHELTER - CONTINUOUS**

A smoldering, blackened shell. Like the inside of a furnace. All their goods? GONE. The O<sub>2</sub> generator? BLOWN TO SHREDS.

Amy staggers, has to sit. Her leg is broken and seared. She's got nothing left. Amy holds her head, nearing passing out.

MEGAN

Let's get you upstairs.

**EXT. FARM - CONTINUOUS**

Megan sets her mom down in the shade of the barn.

Megan looks at the O<sub>2</sub> meter she's wearing. It's the one she pulled off Lucas during the fight: **3hrs.**

As they talk, they pass the oxygen mask to each other.

MEGAN

Is that true, about seeing a weed growing? Or were you just saying that?

AMY

(nodding)

With more time, I could've studied it, seen how it was capable of doing that. Maybe the planet is replenishing itself, maybe it's not and it's a fluke... But now...

They look at each other, sharing the same awful thought.

MEGAN

(lightbulb goes off)

What if we go to where Tess and Lucas came from? Claremont Farms.

Amy considers this.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

It's worth a shot.

AMY

(beat, then)

You go. Take the car. Fast.

MEGAN

What? You're coming with me. We'll be fine. We'll share the tank.

AMY

How... we can't be... passing it back and forth... the whole way... I'm... I'm done, Megan...

MEGAN

No, just, hang on. I have an idea. I'll be right back.

AMY

Just listen to me! For once!

MEGAN

No! I'm not leaving you. This time, we're trying things my way. Please, trust me.

Holding her breath, Megan runs back into the shelter.

**IN THE SHELTER**

Megan sifts through debris, finds the FIRST AID KIT.

She runs into the HYDROPONIC GARDENING ROOM, digs inside a bin with various garden accessories. Finds a HOSE SPLITTER.

**BACK OUTSIDE**

Amy is fading when she sees Megan climb out of the hatch, clutching the items and a GARDEN HOSE.

Amy drops the items on the ground. With the scissors, she cuts off both ends of the garden hose, giving her TWO PIECES.

With the two pieces of hose, she screws each of them into a nozzle of the hose splitter.

Megan indicates to her mom to take a deep breath. Amy does as she's told. Megan shuts the valve on the cylinder. Then:

Rips out the tube connected to her mom's mask. In a hurry, Megan attaches the loose end of the tube to the splitter.

She takes the end of a garden hose, puts it into the opening on Amy's mask and duct tapes around it so no air leaks out.

Megan opens the valve on the O<sub>2</sub> cylinder -- An audible WHOOSH of air flows into Amy's mask. Amy gives a thumbs up.

Megan quickly repeats the steps for herself and takes two GIGANTIC lungfuls of fresh air.

Megan helps Amy stand.

**INT. AMY'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan speeds down the dirt road as the O<sub>2</sub> tank dwindles.

**SERIES OF SHOTS:** As the car travels down a debris littered highway, past crumbling homes and buildings.

**EXT. ROAD - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan passes a sign, "WELCOME TO CLAREMONT FARMS"

**INT. AMY'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan arrives at where Tess's place is supposed to be.

She drives around a corner expecting to see a house, but it's just wide open land. Dirt for as far as the eye can see.

MEGAN

No...

Amy wakes up and sees they're in the middle of nowhere. She looks at Megan who is starting to sob.

AMY

It's okay.

They look at the O<sub>2</sub> tank they've been sharing: **2 min**

AMY (CONT'D)

It's okay.

Amy holds out her hand. Megan takes it.

AMY (CONT'D)

I love you, honey.

Then, Amy takes a piece of paper from the glovebox and writes the location of the weed at the Niagara Gorge as well as a FORMULA. She places it on the dashboard.

AMY (CONT'D)

If we're ever found... It's to help get something to grow... with the little O<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, it might be all we need.

*BLEEP--BLEEP* -- The O<sub>2</sub> tank is going off.

They hug each other tight, sharing their last breath as one.

But then, the ground opens up, like a trap door of sorts.

Megan can barely keep her eyes open as BLURRY FIGURES rush out of the ground... *Is this real?*

And as the figures approach, Megan's eyes gently closed...

**FADE TO BLACK...**

*SILENCE...*

*FOR AN EXTENDED MOMENT...*

*Until we wonder, is this the end...?*

WE'RE HIT WITH A BRIGHT LIGHT



An oxygen mask is placed over Megan's face. She opens her eyes and sees a MAN dressed in grimy winter gear.

Megan doesn't understand what's happening, but is apparently being dragged towards a massive hole in the ground.

**MOMENTS LATER**

Amy and Megan are being rushed inside someplace. Another UNDERGROUND SHELTER...

**BLACK**

Megan in a bed.

**BLACK**

Megan is sleeping on a cot. She opens her eyes and we're in her POV, staring up at a palm tree hanging overhead.

OUTSIDE the room, she hears mumbling and plates CLANKING.

Megan sits up and sees that the palm tree is fake. She's in a beach themed bedroom. Confused, she walks to the door.

**INT. TESS'S SHELTER - CONTINUOUS**

Megan opens the door to see NINE PEOPLE, just like Tess described. Five adults, four children.

Amy is hovering over their air filtration system with tools, attempting to fix it.

Megan looks around, no idea where she is. A MAN, the one who dragged them inside, walks over.

MAN  
How're you feeling?

MEGAN  
...yeah... okay...

MAN  
Your mother told us everything.  
Come sit. Let me show you your new home.

Megan isn't sure if they're to be trusted...

MAN (CONT'D)  
It's okay... You're safe...

Megan sits down at the table with the rest of the folks.

MAN (CONT'D)

This is...

And as the man goes about introducing people, we **FADE OUT...**

**INT. TESS'S SHELTER - DAYS LATER**

Amy is in a main living area, surrounded by people, laying on a couch, recovering from all her injuries.

In the background, Megan is in the kitchen area, grabbing something from the shelf. It's a bunch of seeds and pits.

**EXT. OPEN LAND - MOMENTS LATER**

Megan makes sure the coast is clear as she finds her way to a patch of soil. Clearly attempts at planting something...

**MOMENTS LATER**

Megan is finishing planting the pits. She stands and looks around, taking in her new environment.

Then, she looks back at the ground where she just planted the seeds... She turns around and heads back inside...

But we STAY WITH THE SOIL...

The CAMERA starts going down in the dirt where Megan planted seeds earlier... we go deeper, DOWN, DOWN, WAY DOWN, until we see something... something green...

Something that looks a lot like hope.

**THE END**