

MARIA

Ok guys. I'm going to start making lasagna. I'll let you know when it's ready.

Landon has seemed to calmed down. He's fiddling with a finished paper crane. Hope's breathing is steady. Maria gets up, but sees Hope with the picture. She closes the box and takes it. Hope notices Maria, and they make brief eye contact before Maria leaves. Hope looks at Landon, and then the picture.

CUT TO:

4 INT. HOPE'S BEDROOM - DAY

4

Hope is sitting on her bed looking at the picture. She puts it in a journal, and writes. The journal closes, and it's put on the end table with the gotcha day card. The fan is on.

She walks to her dresser, looks at herself in the mirror, and then picks up the picture of her and her adoptive family. Doctor Burrell appears in the mirror.

DOCTOR BURRELL

Sometimes hope is just a drug in itself.

Hope turns around. Doctor Burrell is gone. She goes to her bed, and grabs a hi-chew from the end table. She eats it, puts headphones in, and curls up in bed. Her eyes close.

CUT TO:

5 INT. KICHEN - DAY

5

The oven timer goes off. Maria pulls lasagna out of the oven, and sets it on the stovetop as Hope walks in. Hope sits at the table. The tablet is on the counter.

MARIA

It's almost ready.

HOPE

Why don't you ever make any Asian food?

MARIA

Oh, I...uh. I can make some tomorrow.

DOCTOR BURRELL (V.O.)  
Remember to stay calm. You can do  
this.

Hope is still until...

HOPE  
Why didn't you show me that picture  
before?

Maria sprinkles some parmesan cheese to the lasagna.

MARIA  
What picture?

Maria then adds more cheese to the lasagna, and spreads it.

HOPE  
The one from the box.

MARIA  
I'm just trying to protect you as best  
I can. Will you go get Landon please?

Hope is about to get up, but the voices start to fade in.

DOCTOR BURRELL (V.O.)  
Temperature is rising.

The voices repeat and get louder.

AVA (V.O.)  
Stupid. Stupid. Stupid.

TRAVIS (V.O.)  
(overlapping)  
Don't do it. Don't you dare.

Maria tops off the lasagna with parsley. There's a quick  
sharp pain in Hope's left ear. She tugs at it. The voices cut  
off as Hope says...

HOPE  
You know how hard it is to talk to you  
sometimes?

Maria starts cutting the lasagna.

MARIA  
What? I talk to you.

HOPE

But we never talk about *my* family or how I feel about it.--

MARIA

We are your family.--This is your home.

HOPE

--Yeah, but it's just--there's no time for all of us. Dad's not here. You always have to go help Landon--or you change--

Maria stops cutting the lasagna and holds the knife.

MARIA

You have to support your brother.--I know it's not always easy--with him, but I need you here. Hope, I am trying ok!

HOPE

--You're right. It's not all that easy here. I can't wait to go to college! You're all a pain in the ass!

LANDON

Stop it!

Landon stands in the kitchen. He's about to cry, and he runs to his room. Maria sighs, and looks at Hope.

HOPE

Fine, I'll go talk to him.

The door slams. Hope leaves. Maria's left alone in the kitchen. She puts the knife in the sink, and leans against the counter.

CUT TO:

6 INT. LANDON'S BEDROOM - DAY

6

Hope knocks on Landon's door.

HOPE

Landon. Hey buddy. Can I come in?

She enters. Landon's room is heavily decorated with plants. Landon's in the corner with headphones on and fiddling with