Sophia Koo, Erin Kyung, Nimsu Ng, Aaron Wang, Kevin Zheng

Mrs. Grissom

AP English 11/Period 0

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# Script

# Scene One :

Sophia reading Aaron’s Note:

Dear Sophia,

I know your parents’ deaths have been hard on you, but I’ll stay by your side as long as you let me. I know you want to forget everything, but **“that’s not a thing any of us are granted. To go back. Wipe away what later doesn’t suit us and make it the way we wish it. You just go on.”** Don’t forget the friends and memories made here. Don’t forget our story. I love you.  
Aaron

\*Flashback to Aaron and Sophia meeting Montage\*

Sophia lingering after the funeral

Christine: Sophia, it’s time to go.  
Aaron: Hey, it’s going to be alright, okay? You’re strong… Here I have one last thing for you. (opens the box) I’ve been writing to you for the past few months. I know it seems weird, cliche but it was just something I wanted to do to save the memories we had. I love you, don’t forget us.

**Scene Two :**

**Back to Sophia reading the note in the car ride.**

**Script:**

**Christine:** Let’s get one thing straight. Don’t expect me to baby you. I might be your legal guardian, but make no mistake, you’re no family of mine. You’re not my problem. I’ll only provide a roof over your head, but figure the rest out for yourself. I’m not a charity, I barely have money for myself, don’t expect to rely on me. Do you understand?

**Sophia**: Going through other notes

mumbles a quiet “I understand.”

*---1 year later---*

**At Sophia’s New High School**

Christine: I can’t pick you up, walk home

Sophia: She can’t pick me up, I have to walk home.

Erin: Again?

Sophia: Yeah

Erin: Didn’t you transfer a year ago? Are you still dealing with her?

Sophia: I don’t have much of a choice?  
Erin: That sucks.

Sophia: Yeah

Erin: Oh wait! I can take you in, you can go with me.

Sophia: Don’t you have a foster parent? Would she be willing?

Erin: I mean… She’s not like a parent but she helped me get through it. It’s not like you’re gonna be missed where you are right now. She’ll be willing to take you in.

Sophia: …I’ll get my stuff.

Erin: I’ll text you my address.

**Arrives at the address: knocks on the door**

Sophia: Is this the right place?

Erin answers door: Follow me, she’s gonna be inside.

Erin: Hey Nimsu, Sophia’s here.

Erin: So… You know how I told you it’s not exactly a foster house?

Sophia to Erin: Yeah?

Erin: Well, we call ourselves the guard. We’re basically con artists. Professional thieves who masquerade ourselves and steal from the nation’s most fortunate. Basically, Nimsu gives us assignments and we just carry it out. It’s not the most moral job but it makes ends meet. And plus, it’s better than the life you have been living.

Sophia: …

Nimsu: Erin here is a Guardsman and you will train to be one too, if you choose to accept it. We give you a new home, a new life, free from the burdens of your past. If you choose to accept, you will no longer go by Sophia Koo. You be whoever I assign you to be. Cut your contacts, erase your past, from here on out you start anew. Shed your skin, so **“You’re only left with the scars to mark the void. All you can choose to do is go on or not. But if you go on, it’s knowing you carry your scars with you.”** Your job here will be to earn the trust of those I assign – your targets – in the end, you’ll steal from them. Strip them of their assets and bring them back to me, the Guard. Do you accept your new role?

Sophia: I accept…

Nimsu: Welcome to the guard.

Erin: I’ll just show you around.

Nimsu: Her training begins today. Make sure she does well

Erin: Forsure.

Erin: Straighten your back, maintain eye contact, and walk with purpose. One mistake, will give it all away.

**MONTAGE: Sophia with several “clients”**

**Back at Nimsu’s office**

Nimsu: Well done, my prodigee. You’ve certainly earned your ranks among the Guard, haven’t you.

Sophia: Always the loyalest soldier.

Nimsu: I have a new assignment for you.

Sophia: Lay it on me.

Nimsu: You’re Sara Swimmer. You have a job interview as a legal advisor for the fastest growing company of the year, Tonata Enterprise. You’ll meet with Kevin Zheng, the business consultant for the company. Earn his trust, and you’ll earn the CEO’s trust as well. Do your research. The interview is in 2 hours. Don’t fail me.

Sophia: I won’t.

Kevin: Oh you must be Sara? Umm, I gotta run out right now, but the CEO’s waiting for you, so you can go on in.

Sophia: Oh, thank you.

Sophia walks into office and sees Aaron. Recognition.

Aaron: Hi, you must be here for the legal advisor position?

Scene Three : Aaron

**Scene 3:**

**Script:**

Aaron is shown typing at the office desk.

Dad: Happy 21st birthday, son. Tonata Enterprise is passed on to you now. I trust that you will take care of it as I have for the past 20 years. I’ve worked hard to build the company into a successful business. It’s all in your hands now.

Puts down a “Change in ownership” form.

Aaron signs it, and fiddles with his pen.

Flash forward to Aaron tapping on a Bankruptcy form.

Secretary: Sir? Mr. Zheng from Ruby Consulting is here to see you.

Aaron: Bring him in.

Kevin: Hello Mr. Wang,

Aaron: Hello Mr. Zheng,

Kevin: Just call me Kevin please. It’s such as shame that your company is going through a rough patch right now.

Aaron: I’m afraid my father passed it down when I was too young. I wasn’t prepared, and the business slipping through my fingertips. I’m on the verge of filing for bankruptcy.

Kevin: Well, let’s see what we can do.

MONTAGE OF KEVIN AND AARON BUILDING UP THE COMPANY. END AT OFFICE SCENE.

Kevin: Hey Aaron, there will be a young lady coming in this afternoon for an interview for a legal advisor position. Can you cover for me real quick? I need to go to New York for some business.

Aaron: Sure.

Kevin: Thanks.

Forward to Sophia’s interview.

Kevin: Oh you must be Sara? Umm, I gotta run out right now, but the CEO’s waiting for you, so you can go on in.

Sophia: Oh, thank you.

Sophia walks into office and sees Aaron. Recognition.

Aaron: Hi, you must be here for the legal advisor position?

Sophia: (looks taken aback)

Aaron: Hello, you must be here for the legal advisor position. I apologize Mr. Zheng could not be here today I’ll be personally conducting your interview today.  I’m Aaron Wang, CEO of Tonata Enterprise.

Sophia: Of course, no worries.

**Scene Four :**

**Script:**

Aaron: Have a seat.

Sophia: (recovering) Hi, I’m Sara, nice to meet you.  (takes off glasses.

Aaron: I’m sorry, but you look familiar. Have we met before?

Sophia: No, I don’t believe so.

Aaron: My apologies. So, why do wanna work here at Tonata Enterprise?

Sophia: Well…

Sophia: I can’t carry this assignment out. Our main target had an errand to run and I met the CEO instead. He’s someone from my past.

Nimsu: I told you from the beginning, let your past go.

Sophia: But..

Nimsu: Finish the assignment! I’m not asking, Sophia.

Sophia storms out of the office, running into Erin.

Erin: Oh hey what’s wrong?

Sophia: My new assignment. I’m supposed to steal from Tonata Enterprise, but the CEO is someone from my past. I have too much history with him. I know, no matter how hard I try, I won’t be able to wipe him away.

Erin: You know you can’t turn your back on the Boss, on the Guard, *on the life you built here*. We’ve all had to make sacrifices for the job. You knew you had to when you came in.

Sophia: Of all the assignments I’ve been gotten these past four years, I’ve never complained, I’ve never doubted her orders. I’ve always carried everything out like the perfect soldier. The best Guardsman. But, you have to understand, this one’s different. Do you think I would want a throw everything away if it wasn’t worth it?

Erin: I’m sorry. I wish I could help you, but we know the best option is to carry out the assignment.

Sophia: Thanks…

**Scene Five:**

**Script:**

**Montage of Sophia growing closer to Aaron reluctantly**

Aaron: Cheers. I don’t know how we did it, but we won the case.

Sophia: Oh, I need you to sign the summary statistics to finish it off…

Reaches over to grab papers, necklace falls out

Aaron: Wait.

Scene suddenly slows down.. Aaron looks at the necklace, quick 2-5 second flashback of him giving it to Sophia… flashes back to present time where you hear Sophia apologizing (in the distance -ish)

Aaron: … that necklace… Sophia?

Sophia What? (wide-eyed, tries to quickly hide the necklace)

Aaron: I knew it, it is you.

Sophia: I have to go!(panicked) gets up and tries to rush out of the room

Aaron: grabs Sophia’s hand, pulls her back.

Sophia: I can’t. I can’t go through with it.

Aaron: Go through with what?

Sophia: Do you remember the box of notes you gave me at my parents’ funeral? I kept it all these years. I’ve tried so hard to let go of my past, but I could never forget you. I never stopped loving you.

Aaron Where’ve you been all these years? (puzzled look)

Sophia: I’m not the girl I used to be, I’m not the girl from Black Cove, I’m not the girl you met at 17. I’ve stolen and lied, and hurt so many people along the way. I’m a member of the Guard, a professional imposter assigned by my Boss to impose as other people, strip them of their assets, and then disappear from their lives. I was assigned your company, and I tried to escape, once I saw it was you as the CEO, but she wouldn’t let me. I know what I do is wrong, but I can’t escape, I don’t have a choice, not anymore.

Aaron: I don’t believe that. I can help you, but only if you trust me.

Sophia: How? **“I am ruined beyond repair, is what I fear … And if so, in time, we’d both be wretched and bitter”** if I dragged you into this with me.

**Aaron: “Let me help you..."I know people can be mended. Not all, and some more immediately than others. But some can be. I don't see why not you."** I could provide the money, until you get out. You don’t have to work for the guard anymore.

**Scene Six:**

(parked car outside Nimsu’s place)

Aaron: Are you sure you want to do this?

Sophia: I’ve waited it out long enough, I have to. You’ve given me too much already. Thank you

\*Gets out of the car\*

Aaron: I’ll be waiting right here.

(Nimsu’s place)

Enters office. (Nimsu and Erin are talking)

Sophia: Nimsu

Nimsu: Hm?

Sophia: I can’t do this anymore. Thank you. For caring for me, for providing a home, for teaching me. But I think I lost myself somewhere along the way, and I didn’t realize until I found it through someone else.

Erin: Sophia… are you sure?

Sophia: I have to.

Nimsu: I understand. You had a home with me once, but you found a new one. I’m glad. Let’s walk you out.

\*Leaves, heads back to the car\*

Nimsu: You’ll be missed here.

Nimsu: (smiling, appears in the doorway, followed by Erin) Sophia. (pulls out a gun) Did you really think I would let you walk away from me?

Sophia: turns around and GETS SHOT

Erin: GASP

Aaron: Sophia!

(Erin and Nimsu flee the scene)

Aaron: (crying in pain) Sophia..

Sophia: It’s okay. It’s okay.

Sophia**: “That’s just pain... It goes eventually. And when it’s gone, there’s no lasting memory. Not the worst of it anyways. It fades. Our minds aren't made to hold on to the particulars of the pain the way we do bliss.”** You’ll heal.

Aaron: **“I’m never letting you go. Never.”**

**Scene Seven(Ending Scene):**

@ Sophia’s grave.

Aaron: (going through the notes Sophia saved) I didn’t know you saved all of these.

\*writes the final note\* (and read aloud)

**“[No] matter what a waste one has made of one’s life, it is ever possible to find some path to redemption, however partial.”**

**“[She] had been alone in the world and empty for so long. But [he] filled [her] full, and so [she] believed everything that had been taken out of [her] might have been for a purpose. To clear space for something better.”**