Act 1 – An average week

Day 1- December 5th

We meet Lavender first. Then Kent then Tali. Lavender asks for fashion magazines. Pandora offers you a drink.

Kent asks for comic books. He talks about his new job and that he makes comics. You have had brief conversations with him before. You tell him that your boss is out. You will look out for anything that might interest him. You talk about the state of the government briefly.

Tali arrives when Kent is there and they are introduced to each other. They talk briefly and Kent leaves. Tali then complains to you about her day. It seems you know each other quite well. Pandora joins in some of the conversation and offers her a coffee. Tali feels bad for accepting coffee from an AI. Pandora explains that she is programmed to make humans feel better.

We can choose our books

Day 2 – December 6th

Pandora talks to us, offers us a drink. Says our delivery has arrived. Tali comes in but leaves, for a work emergency. Kent arrives to talk to you, and Lavender arrives just after. He thinks she is a child. He complains about the government, and Mr Blue (her father) she is offended and begins to insult him. Pandora de-escalates the situation. She also insults Pandora. If you bought something Pandora likes you have the chance to cheer her up with a book in the evening.

Day 3 – December 7th

Tali comes in and vents to you about her work, and that they have no boundaries. She is miserable, but says she is meeting a friend there for moral support. You ask if you have seen this friend but she isn’t sure. If you have a book she wants you can cheer her up and talk about it. If not, Lavender arrives. It is established that they are friends from childhood. They explain how they met, Tali was clever and got into Lavender’s private school on a scholarship. They were both bullied so they became friends. Tali became part of Lavender’s family and vice versa. Kent arrives and he and Lavender scowl at each other.

Day 4 – December 8th

Pandora says she has an idea. She offers you a drink. You ask about the idea. She says she is going to have a small creative writing session on Saturday and is thinking of inviting all the regulars. You agree with this idea and say that you will tell all the customers. Kent comes in first and you invite him. Then Tali and you invite her. They talk about their lives and seem to get on well. They leave. Lavender is absent. You talk to Pandora and the shop is awfully quiet. You ask her if she wants to invite Lavender and she says yes. Lavender pops up and asks why you were talking about her behind her back. You didn’t even hear the bell ring. You tell her jokingly that you were saying mean things about her and she gets sad. You then say she is invited to the creative writing session and she is surprisingly happy about it. She says she loves art and writing and will be happy to come. She is in a good mood and is even nice to Pandora.

Day 5 – December 9th

You are stacking books again. Pandora offers you a drink. You ask her if she thinks you are doing a good job. Her response varies on how many books you have sold. She is still positive in every response. You ask her what she has prepared for the session tomorrow and she says it is a surprise. The usual people come in other than Tali. Lavender says she is swamped in work. Kent works on a comic in the background and Lavender talks about her life and family and the economy. Pandora joins in a bit too.

Day 6 – December 10th

The creative writing session begins. You play an icebreaker game. Everyone reads their poems. You can have some alcohol and open up to everyone or not. Pandora says tomorrow is a day off and she’s worried about being alone. You say you will check on her.

Day 7 – December 11th

You check on Pandora. It is a short day. You have a drink. She might tell you more about her life depending on how many stories you have read to her.

Act 2 – Static clouds

Day 8 – if you have not snapped out of it, the strange man will come and ask for money and explain everything that is happening. Once you know this you can’t accept a drink from Pandora as Cas is too suspicious of her. If you HAVE snapped out of it, then you talk to the strange man and tell him what is happening, he can give you a hint that Pandora is not part of their plans, but she is trustworthy.

You now know that you should save money, if you didn’t already.

Lavender enters and asks about the strange man commenting that she likes his outfit, and that he might be from the convention going on for a Victorian mystery role-playing game. She says she asked for his number and he said ‘Not in a million years’ but she wasn’t offended. Kent arrives and Lavender insults him before she leaves.

Tali comes in and Kent is not in a good mood. They have a conversation with Pandora and she tells them about her life with her father and many of the illegal things he asked her to do, we get an insight on legal restrictions for android AIs.

Tali and Kent have an argument about her relationship with Lavender. That her father is a terrible person and she shouldn’t be associated with the family. Tali laughs and says she has no choice, he found her job and arranged her apartment, which was provided by the job with suspiciously low rent. She can’t afford to break things off, and anyway they have been nothing but nice to her. This infuriates Kent even more. You stay out of it.

Day 9 – Kent is not present. Every time you don’t accept a drink from Pandora she gets more depressed. You can talk with her and ask her about the information she revealed yesterday. Tali arrives and apologises for yesterday. You can open up about your life and say it’s not easy. She says you have no idea how hard it is for her. People are either overly nice, or cold to her. She is treated like a bomb that is about to explode. She is also given a lot of work because they know she can’t refuse and it weighs her down. You talk about your previous employment and how you had to quit, without revealing too many details. She says she doesn’t have that option. Lavender comes in and is bubbly and talks about how she went to the Victorian mystery roleplaying game convention and found lots of cool people. She admits she skipped some work for it. Tali says she is very lucky she can do that. Tali is secretly seething but Lavender doesn’t realise it. When Tali leaves Lavender asks you what’s up with Tali. You diplomatically tell her that she is very stressed with work and feels lonely. Lavender says she always has her as a friend and she can’t feel lonely. And that Tali loves her work so she can’t be stressed about it. You make Lavender question some things she believes about Tali and her father.

Pandora talks to Lavender about music and they share some tastes. You are not so enthused about their tastes. Pandora suggests a Christmas eve party. Lavender says it’s a good idea.

Day 10 – Kent arrives and says there was a terrible news event and he had to be at the Calamity all day to cover it. He apologises for putting you on the spot with Tali and says he knows you like her. You invite Kent. Tali comes in after and apologises for the day before. She doesn’t know why she is so angry. You give her the invitation. Lavender comes in and you let her know everyone is coming to the party. She tells you about some new material that is taking the fashion world by storm. She isn’t sure about it, she says she likes old stuff. At the end of the day Pandora is overjoyed that 3 people are coming to her party. ‘Four including me’, you add.

Day 11 – The strange man comes back and asks for the money. If you have it, you give it to him. If not he is sad, but says the plan will go ahead anyway, and thanks you for trying. You don’t see anyone other than Lavender who says she isn’t sure why it’s so quiet. It’s a short day, you have a short event with Lavender and Pandora.

Day 12 – the day goes by. You have the Christmas eve party. Play some games. When night comes it starts snowing except Kent points out it’s not snow. An incident has happened and you all get news alerts telling you to stay inside. Pandora says there’s no radiation issue, but encourages you to all go to the basement where you sleep.

Act 3 – The Almost Apocalypse

Day 13 – it’s Christmas. Everyone is horrified. Pandora offers to make breakfast. Lavender wants something extravagant and is upset when Pandora doesn’t have the ingredients. Kent says his boss wants him to work as there has been a momentous event and he will be paid a lot of money. However he doesn’t have his laptop. You suggest using Ada’s computer downstairs. Ten minutes later Kent asks you all to look at the computer. He has discovered an AI virtual reality. You inspect it and see images. You put on some headsets and are sucked into the reality.

Instead of the basement you are back in the shop celebrating Christmas. Everyone gets presents that they want other than you. They are ignoring you. Then you realise you can change things. You change their dialogue through choices. You are in control. You start changing people. You get Lavender to apologise to everyone, and Tali to tell her the truth. Kent reveals information that his newspaper wants to keep a secret, they are hacking people’s phones etc… Pandora then admits that she has been drugging you because she doesn’t want you to end up like her father. Dead. She then ‘snaps’ out of it and says you have to stop mind controlling people as it is wrong. She will disconnect you from the machine.

When everyone is out they are all furious with each other. Lavender feels betrayed. Tali is shocked about what she admitted and worried about her friendship with Lavender. Kent is panicking that he will lose his job. They don’t know what you did.

Pandora explains why she was drugging you. You tell her that the drugs were not antidepressants, but the addictive psychoactive drug Fate, the government decided it was cheaper and easier to prescribe you that than get you help. You collected Fate to keep up the façade that you were being drugged and would then dispose of it. Pandora is horrified. She asks why you kept taking the prescription. You said that you needed to keep it up so they wouldn’t suspect you. You tell her you were a legal drug addict before you worked at the bookstore, you worked in an office job but got into blackmail and some horrible situations to ‘get ahead’. You helped your boss steal client information and then blackmailed him and took his position. You felt empty inside after that, and found a help group where you met Ada. Ada was there because her brother had killed himself(Pandora’s previous guardian) Ada convinced you to stop taking Fate. She gave you the job at the bookstore and you quit your old job. At this point you can reveal to her about the secret plot you are doing with Ada.

The others have been listening to your conversation and are upset with you. Lavender tells you she will tell her father you are involved in terrorist activity and get you arrested. You ask her why you think the ash fell down on the city. She thinks it is an attack from ‘the enemy’ you laugh and say there is no enemy. The attack was a bomb released by the government to destroy a portion of London to rebuild it. The rebellion intersected it and it exploded in the sky turning to ash. They don’t care about the wellbeing of the people at all.

You all go to bed. Pandora wakes up in the middle of the night and asks for a story.

There is another news event and the houses of parliament are on fire and have been destroyed.

Day 14 – People are scared of you other than Pandora. Everyone avoids each other. Kent finally says he is sick of it and tells you he wants to understand why you did what you did. You explain to him. Lavender taunts you but you snap back at her. You snap back at all of them calling them hypocrites. Lavender says she will tell her father what happened. You say that there is already someone waiting to leak what her father has been involved in. She will have bigger problems to deal with after this is over. Lavender faints and Tali looks after her. She cries that she will lose her job. But she says maybe she is happy because she was so stressed and felt guilty all the time.

Day 15 – the ash is cleared and everyone is allowed back outside.

January – Ada arrives. She is annoyed or happy depending on whether you got the money to the strange man. If you were successful no one was arrested. She will transfer you to somewhere else with Pandora, if you became friendly with Pandora. If you made friends with Tali she will also transfer Tali as she lost her job after the incident. Kent and Lavender say goodbye to you. If you befriended them you will get some cut scenes with them too.