# <u>Quitter</u> The Beginning

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## TEASER

Shadows move across the screen, symbols from another dimension flashing.

We can hear a heartbeat, slowly growing in pace, as well as a whisper of a voice, dark and cold.

What he's saying sounds broken, like he's muttering the words of some forgotten spell...

A different voice breaks through the darkness, a woman's voice. Her message is urgent--

VOICE (V.O.)

Hope... wake up! The future of the world is in your hands...

EXT. FOREST - DAY

HOPE FROST (14), a messy blonde bob, stands in the middle of a forest, holding a trinket of some kind in her bloody hands. Her eyes slowly flicker open as her body continues walking in a straight line towards some set-up ritual.

Hope leans back to get her body to stop moving. She drops the trinket.

A cold breeze pushes past her ripped clothing.

She holds her hands up to her face and sniffs them, her face scrunching up as she smells that they are, indeed, covered in blood.

HOPE

(to herself)

What...

She wipes her hands onto her bloody shirt, groaning.

She grabs onto her head and looks up.

The sun shines brightly through the trees, burning her eyes. It's nearly 5PM, judging by where the sun is. She looks back down.

HOPE (cont'd)

Where am I...?

There's a snapping twig behind her. She turns in a defensive stance to take on whatever dares come near her.

CUT TO:

Hope wandering around the forest, the sun having gone down. She's shivering, and eating the remains of a rat.

Suddenly, through the trees, a light shines through. PHILLIP FROST (50s), like a homing device, spots Hope and runs at her.

Hope squints and spits out the remains of her meal.

PHILLIP (O.S.)

Hope!! Oh, God, is that really you?

HOPE

... Dad..?

Phillip runs on screen and drops the flashlight, grabbing onto Hope's face and examining her every feature. His expression drops once he notices her eyes. They're \*orange\*.

PHILLIP

(muttering)

No... not my baby...

HOPE

How did you find me out here?

Phillip pulls Hope into a tight hug.

PHILLIP

Let's get you home.

EXT. PHIL'S CAR - NIGHT

Phillip and Hope climb into the car. Phil turns on the radio, which plays the theme song. Amazing, incredible, I'm the king of transitions.

## ACT I

INT. THE FROST RESIDENCE - MORNING

AURORA ASHBLUFF-FROST (early 30s), superficial supermodel body-just like her personality-lays down on a couch, happily painting her toenails like a teenager.

Her son, AXOLOTL ASHBLUFF (17) baggy eyes and baggier sweater, paces the floor.

## AXOLOTL

He's been gone for a whole week now... why wouldn't he let me just call the police when she went missing??

#### **AURORA**

Don't worry about it, sweetheart, everything is perfectly wonderful now.

Axol (Axolotl) shoots his mother a dirty look as she blissfully continues painting her nails.

HARMONY FROST (14), the perfect angel, pokes her head into the room. She's hiding something.

## **HARMONY**

Don't worry about it, Axol! Dad will be back with Hope before we know it!

Aurora tenses up.

#### AXOLOTL

I hope you're right...

Right on cue, the front door bursts open. Phillip and Hope walk in.

Axol looks at Hope's disheveled state. He rubs his eyes.

AXOLOTL (cont'd)

Welcome back. I need my coffee ...

Axol walks off into the kitchen.

Aurora stops painting her nails. Her entire body tenses and her mouth curls into an intense frown. She narrows her eyes at Hope. Hope returns the look.

**AURORA** 

Oh. You're back.

HOPE

Glad to see you too, Mom.

Aurora aggressively gets up and glares at Phillip. She looks down at Hope.

Phillip shoots her a disapproving look and cocks his head towards their bedroom, motioning her to leave.

Aurora huffs through her nose and walks out of the room.

HOPE (cont'd)

(angry)

Love you too.

Harmony runs in, carrying a necklace with some kind of angelic symbol on it.

**HARMONY** 

Hope!! You're finally back!!

Harmony throws the necklace over Hope's neck.

HARMONY (cont'd)

This is for the next time you go

missing. It will protect you from

danger. I made it myself!

Hope looks at the necklace with a soft smile.

HOPE

Thanks.

**HARMONY** 

Is that blood all over you?

HOPE

(looking at her

hands)

Believe it or not, I actually don't know where this blood came from.

**HARMONY** 

Interesting. Try not to beat people up in your sleep next time.

Hope forces a laugh before grabbing onto her side, in pain.

Phillip steps between the two twins, gently pushing Hope into the kitchen.

PHILLIP

We gotta get you cleaned up, girlie. You need to go to school.

HOPE

Who knows what those monsters have gotten up to while I've been away.

PHILLIP

More true than you realize.

Once in the kitchen and away from Harmony, Phillip pulls a black pill covered in mysterious markings out of his pocket and hands it to Hope.

PHILLIP (cont'd)

Take this.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - MORNING

Hope and Harmony walk down the hallway. "Missing Child" posters with Hope's face litter the bulletin board, though most have been vandalized in some way.

HOPE

Homey as ever.

HARMONY

At least I'm glad you're back.

Harmony gives Hope a little side hug.

HARMONY (cont'd)

I gotta go to class. You know...

being a junior and all. Talk to you

at lunch!

Harmony takes off down the hall. Hope looks back at the posters. She takes one off and notices that it's a fake. All the posters are fake.

A RANDOM KID (about 6 inches taller than Hope) walks up to her, knocking into her.

RANDOM KID

Oops, didn't see you there. Wishful thinking.

Random kid grins, a sickening look.

Hope grabs onto the random kid.

HOPE

I can kill you in 17 different ways using only a plastic knife, Victor.

A TEACHER walks by and overhears the threat.

#### TEACHER

Now, Hope, we don't want to spend another week in suspension, do we?

Hope lets go of the random kid and brushes off his shirt.

TEACHER (cont'd)

That's my girl.

The teacher continues on to her classroom. The random kid eyes Hope up and down, pure malice in his eyes.

RANDOM KID

This is why nobody likes you,

Frosty the Freak. Even your own
sister skipped two grades to get
away from you.

HOPE

At least I have both my parents.

Random kid is about to make a comeback to that remark, when BILL (15) typical nerd who is afraid of everything, comes running down the hallway, crying. He tackles Hope to the ground in a hug.

RANDOM KID

And that's my cue to leave. Romance between weirdos is territory even I can't tread.

Random kid finally goes to his own class.

BILL

Hope!! You're finally back!!

Hope pushes herself and Bill back up to a standing position. She pats Bill on the back.

HOPE

Jeez, Bill, what's got you so worked up?

BILL

You've been gone... for a week..

Bill blows his nose on Hope's shirt.

and... and...

BILL (cont'd)

Someone's been replacing my lunch with dead rats every day since you've been gone!!

Hope wipes the boogers back onto Bill before a flash of determination hits her eyes.

BILL (cont'd)

That's not all, either!!

Bill pulls a note out of his backpack and hands it to Hope.

BILL (cont'd)

They left this on the first day.

HOPE

(mumble-reading)

If you get that freaky Frost girl involved, we'll sabotage her lunch, too.

Hope stares at the note for a moment, thinking. Bill finally stops crying.

BILL

What are you gonna do?

After another second of deliberation, Hope crumples the note up.

HOPE

I'm gonna crush these guys.

Besides, rats don't actually taste
that bad.

# ACT II

INT. BILL'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Hope sits in Bill's classroom, eying his backpack like a hawk.

BILL'S TEACHER stands at the front of the classroom, trying to teach.

BILL'S TEACHER

Miss Frost, please. You don't belong in this classroom. I have students that need that seat you're taking up.

HOPE

No-can-do, Mr. Teacher. I'm here on official business.

Bill's Teacher sighs, presses a button on his desk and turns around, writing equations on the board.

Hope taps her finger on the desk before kicking Bill behind the leg.

HOPE (cont'd)

(whispered)

So when does this normally happen?

BILL

I don't know?

HOPE

Of course...

Another random student walks close to Bill's backpack, and Hope springs from her seat and grabs onto her.

HOPE (cont'd)

YOU!!

ANOTHER RANDOM STUDENT

(yelps)

Me?!

HOPE

What are you doing, getting so close to Bill's backpack, huh?! You got any dead rats on you?!

ANOTHER RANDOM STUDENT

No!! NO!!!

She begins crying.

Bill's Teacher turns back around.

BILL'S TEACHER

That's it! Miss Frost, get out of

my classroom!

A school security guard, wearing a badge of honor that reads "HOPE SECURITY" barges into the classroom.

Hope grumbles to herself, and lets go of another random student.

The Hope Security escorts Hope out of the classroom.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Hope stares intensely into Bill's classroom through the window in the door.

From behind her, she can hear three bullies--LUCKY (14), ODYSSEY (16), and STEVEN (15).

ODYSSEY

... Yeah, my cat understands

English or something. Whenever I

tell her to find me dead rats, she
always brings me like 4 dead rats.

STEVEN

Aww!

Hope turns her head so slowly you can almost hear the bones scraping.

She starts walking down the hallway to confront these lunch-swapping fiends. Suddenly, she doubles over.

She grabs onto her head as the world around her begins to spin. Her heartbeat grows faster and faster, and then... there's a voice, VVOYD (well into his millions), yelling at her.

VVOYD (O.S.)

You!!! Get me out of here, RIGHT!

NOW!!

Hope looks around for the source of the voice.

HOPE

(to the bullies)

Did you morons say something to me?

Steven, Lucky, and Odyssey look at Hope with pure disgust in their eyes.

ODYSSEY

No, weirdo.

The voice comes again, louder.

VVOYD (O.S.)

I KNOW you humans have magic. The ones that got me here certainly did. Clearly you want to undo it yourself since you ruined my ritual yesterday!

HOPE

I don't know what you're--

VVOYD (O.S.)

Fine, I'll find something to do it myself.

Hope's body contorts unnaturally, bending in ways that it shouldn't go. Her eyes briefly flash a bright orange. Her movements and jagged and broken.

Hope begins to dig through her own pockets, turning the fabric inside out. She takes off her jacket and shakes out the contents, finding nothing but lint and a pocket knife.

HOPE

H-hey!

Hope walks over to a locker and breaks it open with her bare hands, beginning to dig through the poor kid's personal belongings. She goes through notebooks, staplers, packs of qum, and a maggot-filled sandwich.

VVOYD

(through Hope)

These little creatures look very helpful.

Hope takes the sandwich and stuffs it inside her pockets. Lucky taps Steven on the arm and points him at Hope.

STEVEN

Hey! That's my stuff! You can't

just take that!!

Hope's eye's look at Steven, but she can't say anything. Vvoyd talks for her.

VVOYD

(frustrated)

Your stash of magical items is

PATHETIC.

Steven charges at Hope, but she catches him with one arm and shoves him to the ground.

Steven cowers on the ground, covering his face.

STEVEN

My face! It's ruined!! Do you know

how much that cost?

VVOYD

I've seen rock shards with more

form than your face, you nasty.

Hope tries to help Steven up, but it looks like she's going to beat him up on the ground as she's continually fighting against herself.

ODYSSEY

That's it. I'm calling Hope

Security.

She goes to break open another locker, but her hand hesitates, like she's fighting herself for control. Her hand eventually grows one and a half sizes and she punches the locker door open.

This locker is full of Harry Potter merchandise.

VVOYD

These should help get me back.

Hope, through jagged movements, gathers together the hat, the wand, and a broom, and puts it all on herself. She looks at herself in a locker mirror and pulls on her facial features.

VVOYD (cont'd)

Humans are so much squishier than I

remember...

Axolotl walks out of his classroom and looks at Hope. He rubs his eyes again.

AXOLOTL

... Hope?

Hope strains to look at Axol. She reaches a hand out.

HOPE

(strained)

Axolotl.. help...

Hope turns to look at the bullies. Odyssey is using his phone to call the Hope Security. She walks over to him and starts grabbing for his phone.

ODYSSEY

H-hey! What do you think you're

doing??

VVOYD

I need that!!

Finally, Hope Security shows up.

HOPE SECURITY

Miss Frost!!

VVOYD

A COP!!

Hope makes her fingers sharp like knives, and is about to stab the Hope Security, but she finally regains control of herself and falls in the air mid-slice.

She grabs onto her head and gasps for air as her hand goes back to normal.

Axolotl clears his throat.

AXOLOTL

Um. I need to go back to class.

He walks back into the classroom he came from.

Hope takes off the wizard hat, her movements finally back to normal. She no longer moves jagged and weird.

HOPE SECURITY

What do you think you're doing??

HOPE

(holding her own

hand)

I don't know!

HOPE SECURITY

That's two weeks lunch detention...

you're lucky I'm not sending you

back to Juvi!

Hope looks back at the property damage she's caused. She holds the hand that Vvoyd made get big and rubs it. It's starting to bruise.

HOPE

Yikes...

HOPE SECURITY

Best. Behavior. From now on, Miss

Frost. Or It's the big house for

you.

HOPE

Yes, sir.

HOPE SECURITY

I'm going to be keeping a closer eye on you...

The Hope Security slaps some kind of tracking device on Hope before walking away backwards.

HOPE SECURITY (cont'd)

The break room is calling my name

for now... Best. Behavior.

Hope nods as the Hope Security disappears.

The three bullies burst out laughing hysterically.

ODYSSEY

It's been, what, a day? Not even that? And you're already in massive trouble?

Steven does a terrible impression of Hope losing control of her body and breaking down the lockers.

STEVEN

(mocking)

Oh, I'm Hope Frost, I love breaking stuff, derp.

VVOYD (O.S.)

I had better control than that.

Hope laughs to herself.

ODYSSEY

What the hell is so funny, Frosty?

HOPE

See you in detention, Odd-ball.

## ACT III

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

The Hope Security sits at the adult table, playing a gambling game on his phone. He wahoos loudly as he wins \$20. Bill's teacher gives him a look, so he looks over at the detention table to make sure things are going smoothly.

Hope sits at the lunch detention table, poking at her "food". It's a pile of actual garbage with a loving note from Odyssey on it. Her hand is purple now.

Bill sits across from her, lunchbox in hand.

He opens it to reveal 4 dead rats where his lunch should be.

HOPE

I know... I'm working on it.

BILL

What happened to your hand?

HOPE

I found the culprits.

Hope points Bill towards Odyssey, Lucky, and Steven, who are all sitting next to Harmony. They're eating Bill's amazing snacks.

HARMONY

Don't you think stealing is wrong?

ODYSSEY

Not if you're the one I'm stealing for, baby girl. Besides, his mommy will give him plenty of snacks when he goes back home...

Odyssey breaks a Striped Cake in half and gives the second half to Harmony, and the two get close and rub noses.

Hope's face goes red with rage in the background.

**HARMONY** 

Oh, hehe. Well, in that case...

Harmony takes a bite and smiles sweetly. She notices Hope at the detention table.

HARMONY (cont'd)

One moment, Odysseus. I wanna go say hi to my sister.

ODYSSEY

That freak? You know, she attacked me earlier.

**HARMONY** 

Oh, how awful.

Harmony rolls her eyes and walks to Harmony.

HARMONY (cont'd)

(to Hope)

Detention already?

HOPE

Why are \*you\* hanging out with THOSE guys?

HARMONY

(taking a bite out

of the stolen good)

Free snacks. Hahaha!

Hope groans.

BILL

(small voice)

Those... those were mine.

**HARMONY** 

Sorry?

HOPE

That was Bill's lunch.

Harmony stops eating mid-chew. She frowns and offers the rest of the cake to Bill.

Hope stands up.

HOPE (cont'd)

I'll deal with you later. Right

now, it's their turn.

VVOYD (O.S.)

Always so violent...

Hope smacks her head.

Harmony rushes to her side.

HARMONY

What was that for?

Hope shakes her head.

HOPE

It's weird. Whatever.

She grabs onto Bill's lunchbox, rats and all.

Hope rolls up her sleeves and marches over to Odyssey. He leans back, as he's sitting on top of the table, but Hope straight up punches the half-eaten Striped Cake out of his mouth.

Odyssey holds his mouth and spits.

#### ODYSSEY

We told warned crybaby not to get you involved, Frost. It's gonna be garbage for lunch from here on out for you.

Hope dumps the dead rats onto the table. All the other high-schoolers get up and scream. Not the three bullies, though.

Steven gets up.

STEVEN

You're out of your league, kid. We have the one thing you'll never have: connections.

Hope punches Odyssey in the face again. Lucky looks up.

STEVEN (cont'd)

You think a girl could take me out?
My dad would be furious.

HOPE

So that's why you don't have a girlfriend.

Harmony chuckles from the detention table.

Steven throws a punch, but Hope grabs him and slams him into the table, catching a bunch of loose snacks as they go flying. She throws them into the lunchbox.

Odyssey comes at her again, but she kicks him right where the sun doesn't shine and he goes down like a baby.

HOPE (cont'd)

I'm back in town, boys. You know what that means? Your reign of terror is over.

ODYSSEY

Lucky... you know what to do...

OW...

Hope gathers more of Bill's stolen lunch and zips the lunchbox shut, ready to take on Lucky. She smiles, sure of herself.

HOPE

Come on, you feeling.. Lucky?

Lucky stares blankly at Hope.

Hope stands in a martial art stance, ready for his move.

He pulls pepper spray out of his pocket and sprays Hope right in her face. She backs up, covering her burning eyes.

Steven throws some mashed potatoes at Hope from the ground.

The Hope Security stops playing gambling solitaire on his phone and looks up to see the commotion. He starts running towards Hope.

HOPE SECURITY

That's it!! No more Mister Nice
Hope Security! You're going
straight to kid prison for this!!

Hope's eyes water intensely and she grabs onto her head. Her heartbeat thumps intensely.

Vvoyd is back.

VVOYD

(through Hope,

seething)

You kids ruined this already

hideous body.

Hope suddenly stands up so straight that her back throws back a bit. Her bloodshot eyes are an intense shade of orange once again.

The Hope Security steps back a bit.

HOPE SECURITY

Uh, kid? You're not \*so\* ugly that

you have to pretend to be

possessed...

She looks at the Hope Security with an intense expression. Her eyes seem too big for her face.

VVOYD

And you...

In a series of bone-cracking shape-shifting, Hope grows 3 sizes into some strange, living art piece. She's winning the Tumblr Sexyman Award for sure.

Hope, now a monster, hits the Hope Security across the room, sending him flying through a window.

Hope is now the voice inside of Vvoyd/Hope's head.

HOPE (O.S.)

Stop! He didn't do anything!

Odyssey and Steven look at the Hope Security in horror. Odyssey starts crying.

ODYSSEY

I'll never steal again!! Please

don't hurt me!!

Odyssey gets on his knees.

STEVEN

What ARE you?! Freak!! I'm getting

out of here!!

Steven runs out, taking Lucky with him.

Hope turns, causing massive property damage.

Bill's lunchbox, now full of real food, gets slid across the floor towards Bill.

All the occupants run away screaming, except for Bill and Harmony. Bill stands there, staring at Hope in complete horror.

VVOYD

(through Hope)

You can't even use magic against

\*this\*??

Hope gets even bigger, her back scraping against the very high cafeteria ceiling.

HOPE (O.S.)

That hurts!!

Hope uses one of her... appendages? to punch/kick herself in the... stomach?. She cringes in response.

Meanwhile ...

**HARMONY** 

(to Bill)

We need to do something.

Harmony grabs onto Bill and they run into the kitchen.

INT. SCHOOL KITCHEN

Harmony grabs a pot and pours some water into it.

Bill finally comes to his senses and freaks out.

BILL

What are we doing??! What happened to Hope?!

**HARMONY** 

You know how to make Holy Water?

BILL

No??

Harmony smiles.

**HARMONY** 

You boil the Hell out of it.

She clicks the stove on.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Hope turns around unnaturally from fighting herself, constantly punching and poking herself.

Vvoyd realizes that he's alone.

VVOYD

Come back! It was just a joke. I

need help!

Hope morphs back into her old humanoid shape... but something is slightly off. Her arms are too long, and her face is slightly different.

Hope chases after the crowd of people, her movement completely inhuman. She keeps trying to stop herself.

She runs past a classroom with Axolotl in it.

Hope skids to a stop and wanders in.

INT. ABANDONED CLASSROOM

Axolotl and D&D GOER are playing D&D, with Axol as the DM.

AXOLOTL

... and that's a 17. You hit.

D&D GOER

Yes! Now there's a guarantee that

I'll kill it... hey, Lot, why is

your sister in here?

Axolotl turns towards Hope.

AXOLOTL

Um... can I help you? Hope?

(squinting)

You look... off.

Hope looks at all the D&D equipment and reads the posters that claim that D&D is magic.

VVOYD

(through Hope)

I need all your magic supplies.

Right now. I hate this body.

Hope sticks her hand out expectantly.

Harmony runs past the classroom with the pot of "holy" water, and skids to a stop to turn around once she realizes Hope is in there.

AXOLOTL

Um. No?

Hope cricks her neck unnaturally and goes to punch Axol, but she stops herself. She finally regains control of herself.

HOPE

(as herself)

Don't you dare hurt my brother!!

She moves her arms around her body, slow and in pain, but a soft smile crosses her lips.

HOPE (cont'd)

I... did it!

Harmony throws the boiling water onto Hope.

**HARMONY** 

Begone, Satan!!

Axolotl covers up his board so it doesn't get wet.

AXOLOTL

Hey!! Do your Christian Mythology roleplay somewhere else! I get enough of this at home.

D&D GOER

Yeah. This room is taken.

Hope turns around.

Harmony drops the bucket.

HARMONY

You need better friends. Bill took off screaming the second I told him we needed Holy Water.

Hope grabs Harmony and pulls her into a tight hug, dragging her out of the room.

HOPE

Every part of my body hurts. That boiling water didn't even phase me.

HARMONY

I can't believe you got yourself possessed...

HOPE

I don't remember pissing off a witch.

**HARMONY** 

Who cares! This is awesome! I've always wanted a front-row seat to a live demon!!

VVOYD (O.S.)

I've always wanted an audience...

Hope pushes Harmony away from her.

**HARMONY** 

You're right. We should go home. It's been a long day. I'm just really glad that you're safe.

EXT. FRONT OF SCHOOL - DAY

Hope and Harmony walk out of the school.

INT. CULT CAR

A man wearing a suit with a pin saying "The Society For the Betterment of the Enlightened" on it sits in a car, watching the two twins walk out.

He grins as he notices Hope's unnatural features.

He grabs him phone and dials a number.

CREEPY DUDE

(over the phone)

Soul Keeper... we found our missing Host.

ACT IV??

EXT. FROST RESIDENCE - EVENING

Hope walks up to her house with Harmony, holding every part of her body. Every step she takes, she lets out a huff of pain.

Harmony rests a hand on her back.

**HARMONY** 

Are you okay...? Whatever happened back there, anyway?

Hope shakes her head.

HOPE

I'll be fine. But... do you think it's possible to have your organs misplaced and still be alive?

Harmony laughs at the question before getting another look at Hope.

**HARMONY** 

Oh, are you serious? I'm surprised that necklace I gave you didn't help at all.

Hope grabs the necklace and looks at it. She shrugs.

HOPE

Maybe it's not a demon.

HARMONY

What else could it be?

Phillip suddenly walks out of the front door, carrying several boxes in his hands. He carries them to the car, spotting the twins with his peripheral vision on his way over.

PHILLIP

Hello girls, how was school?

Hope and Harmony turn to look at Phillip. Hope looks inside and notices that the entire house has been packed into boxes.

**HARMONY** 

(to Phillip)

Exciting!

HOPE

Dad, what's going on?

Phillip drops the boxes into the trunks and looks at Hope, his expression dropping as he notices her looking slightly off.

He clears his throat and resumes a happy face.

PHILLIP

(lying)

Great news, kids! I got a new job, and we're moving. Right now. Today! Please help your mother and I load up.

Harmony smiles along with Phillip.

**HARMONY** 

Moving? Okay! New friends, new place, it'll be amazing. Let's go, Hope!

Harmony goes inside the house, her shoulders drooping.

Aurora walks out, carrying a single box. She scoffs at Hope before turning her eyes away from her.

Phillip nudges Aurora. She drops the box in the trunk and sits in the passenger seat of the car. He buries his face into his hand.

PHILLIP

Of course... Hey, Hope, can you

come here for a second?

Hope, who hadn't left her spot once, walks towards her father.

He pulls out another black mystery pill.

Hope's eyes grow orange again and she walks away from Phillip, her movements jagged.

VVOYD

(through Hope)

You're not disembodying me again,

kid.

Phillip grabs onto Hope and shoves the pill into her mouth. Hope contorts and doubles over, clearly in pain, until... it finally subsides. Her eyes are just the regular orange they were in the forest.

PHILLIP

Hope? Honey, how are you feeling?

HOPE

... What is that? How did you get

it?

PHILLIP

You don't need to worry about that

now... I'll keep you safe.

Phillip pulls Hope into a hug, softly crying.

PHILLIP (cont'd)

I'm so sorry...

Harmony comes out of the house, carrying 6 boxes at once. Axolotl follows, carrying 4.

They drop the stuff off in the trunk, slamming it shut.

**HARMONY** 

That should be the rest of it!

AXOLOTL

I can't believe this is happening.

Phillip lets go of Hope and takes a deep breath.

PHILLIP

Let's go. There's not a second to waste.

HARMONY

You're pretty excited about this new job, huh?

Phillip smiles at Harmony and pushes Hope to climb into the car.

PHILLIP

It's the opportunity of a lifetime.

THE END