

Ask Boppa

by

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INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY
March 2054 Charlotte, NC

FADE IN:

On a tidy desk sits an open old laptop computer with a Beatles screensaver. The date says March 10, 2054. There are several small trophies and a signed baseball on a stand.

The wall behind the desk is filled with pictures, plaques and awards. One side baseball nostalgia and radio station promos, the other celebrates company sales achievements. The middle is dedicated to family, especially two photos of a smiling couple taken at ages 25 and 50.

A pair of old hands carefully adds a third photo, the same couple at 85. The face of the man placing the photo is reflected in the glass picture frame. He is the man in the photo, and he is smiling.

INT. MARIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

MARIE (21, energetic, yet cautious, soon to be graduating senior) sits in front of a device that projects a hologram, known as a spectra call. She's speaking to the HEAD OF NFN (Not Fake News, Male 35, well groomed). She wears a nice blouse, but is also wearing shorts and flip flops which the Head of NFN can't see below her desk.

MARIE

I'm so flattered that you're considering me for this position.

[ON HOLOGRAM]

HEAD OF NFN

I have to say Ms. Derring, what I've seen of your stream and the flare for which you write, is truly amazing.

Marie blushes as she smiles.

MARIE

Thank you.

[ON HOLOGRAM]

HEAD OF NFN

We're considering two others, along with you, for our new stream coming out this summer.

(MORE)

HEAD OF NFN (CONT'D)
 We'd like to connect the
 generational dots, bring more
 people together on one stream.

MARIE
 That's a great idea.

[ON HOLOGRAM]

HEAD OF NFN
 We would really like to see you
 write something in that vein so we
 can see if you have what it takes.

MARIE
 Of course! I'll get on that right
 away.

Marie feigns a smile as she contemplates.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS QUAD - DAY

Marie walks across the campus quad as other students pass by her. (Although it's 2054, people and vehicles look much like they do today and the form of dress is really not that different.)

INT. COLLEGE CLASSROOM - DAY

A theater style room with the professor at the bottom and a giant, free floating electronic board just behind him with notes from his lecture.

Marie, is using her hologram computer as several other students around her do the same. PROFESSOR CLEMENS (45, average, in slacks and a button down shirt) speaks.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS
 Your senior theses are due in four
 weeks and I still need an intent
 form from some of you.

Marie exhales and looks up to the ceiling, then back down towards Professor Clemens.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS (CONT'D)
 If you need some ideas, I'll be in
 my office today from one to three.

A tone sounds and the students close their hologram computers and get up to leave. Marie looks at Professor Clemens.

INT. PROFESSOR CLEMENS OFFICE - DAY

Marie sits in front of Professor Clemens desk.

MARIE

I'd like to take you up on your offer.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

I figured as much.

MARIE

For some reason, I'm blanking.

He sits back in his chair with his hands in front of him, tapping his fingers together for a beat.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

You're one of the best young writers I've seen in a long time.

She smiles at the compliment.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS (CONT'D)

That's why NFN wants you write for their stream. What's so different now?

MARIE

The pressure. I gotta show them what I can do and impress you at the same time.

He chuckles, then sits forward.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

What's rule number one in writing?

MARIE

Write what you know.

Marie ponders, then looks at him.

MARIE (CONT'D)

I need to write something that touches multiple generations. I don't even know mine that well.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

Write about someone who does.

Marie looks puzzled.

PROFESSOR CLEMENS (CONT'D)

Take someone who has touched all generations and write about them.

MARIE

Who am I going to find like that to fill a thesis and a stream in less than a month?

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

Surely you have someone who can inspire you.

MARIE

I don't have someone like that, and don't call me Shirley. (chuckles)

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

Excuse me?

MARIE

Boppa cracks one liners like that all...

Marie stops speaking and realizes her muse.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Boppa! That's it, I can ask Boppa!

PROFESSOR CLEMENS

Who's Boppa?

INT. RETIREMENT FACILITY - COMMON AREA - DAY

BOPPA (89-year-old tall, large white male with a short Van Dyke beard and glasses) sits among other elderly people in a common area of a retirement facility. All of them, smiling at Boppa as he tells a story. When he finishes, they all laugh out loud and clap.

Still laughing, several of them, mostly couples, get up and walk by him, pat him on the back and walk away. Boppa's smile slowly shrinks as he looks around the room.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

MIA (46, dresses neatly, Mother of Marie) and ROLLAND (50, average build, Father of Marie) sit at their kitchen island, looking at free floating hologram tablets when they hear the front door close.

MIA
Was that the front door?

ROLLAND
Sounded like it.

MIA
Are you going to check?

Rolland turns in his seat and shouts.

ROLLAND
Who's there?!

MIA
I could've done that.

Mia gets up to go see who it is when Marie walks in.

MARIE
It's me!

Mia goes and hugs Marie as Rolland stands up.

MIA
Honey, what're you doing here?

Rolland leans in to kiss Marie on the forehead before she walks and opens the refrigerator.

MARIE
Didn't have a class tonight and
thought I'd run something by you.

ROLLAND
And clean out our fridge.

MIA
Relax dear.

Marie closes the refrigerator door and finishes the piece of sliced deli meat she picked out and walks over to the island.

MARIE
I have to turn in my thesis form
for my creative writing class.

MIA
OK...

MARIE
If it's good, NFN wants me to write
a multi-generational social stream
for them when I graduate.

Marie goes back to the fridge and opens the door.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Professor Clemens suggested I write about someone who's touched many lives.

ROLLAND

Me?

Marie does an exaggerated frown.

MARIE

No Daddy.

MIA

Then who?

Marie bites her bottom lip, then smiles.

MARIE

I was thinking, Boppa.

Both Mia and Rolland shake their heads.

MIA

I don't think that's a good idea honey. He's not well...

ROLLAND

Especially with what he's been through lately.

Marie moves quickly around the island to be in front of her parents.

MARIE

I'm not asking him to run a marathon.

MIA

I guess I meant... since...

Mia's voice falls off as Rolland puts his arm around her.

MARIE

I know... I just want to sit down with him and find out things about him... our family... the old days.

ROLLAND

You've heard his stories before honey, they aren't that good.

Mia slaps Rolland's arm.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

Hey!

MARIE

I want to... I don't know...
interview him, like a documentary.

MIA

You want to interview your Great
Grandpa for your thesis?

MARIE

Why not?

Mia ponders that question for a beat.

MIA

What do you think?

ROLLAND

Why don't you spectra your dad and
Jade.

Marie nods with approval. Mia looks straight ahead. Mia prepares to spectra-call with her sister JADE (44, Athletic) and MATT (69, Tall, thin)

MIA

Spectra-call Jade and Dad.

A hologram appears in front of Mia and Rolland. Marie walks around behind them as Mia begins.

MIA (CONT'D)

Hey guys, got a question for you.

The words type within the hologram, and when she swipes her hand, it sends the message notated by a ping.

After a beat, a hologram of Jade appears in front of them.

JADE

What's up?

MIA

Hold on, let's see if Dad hops on.

JADE

Seriously, you know he doesn't keep
spectra on.

They all chuckle as Matt's hologram appears.

MATT
I heard that.

JADE
Sorry Dad...

MIA
Marie has a question to ask of us.

MARIE
Well, I have to write a story for my thesis and hopefully, a possible job in the stream, and wanted to see what you thought of me...

Marie pauses for a moment and looks at Mia.

MARIE (CONT'D)
...interviewing Boppa?

There is a moment of silence as Matt and Jade look at each other and to Mia and Rolland.

MATT
I don't know kiddo.

They all look at each other in silence until Jade chimes in.

JADE
I love it!

MATT
Well...

Marie purses her lips and holds her hands up to her mouth.

MATT (CONT'D)
I think it's OK to *ask* Boppa if he'd do it for you.

Marie smiles wide and lightly claps her hands as she moves back around in front of her parents.

MARIE
So I can ask him?!

Marie looks to both Jade and Matt, then exhales.

MIA
Yes dear, you can *ask* Boppa.

Marie leans through the hologram and kisses Mia.

MIA (CONT'D)

This all makes me nervous though.

MARIE

Thank you all so much! I'll make plans to go see him tomorrow.

MATT

Remember kiddo... don't bring up...

MARIE

I know Pops, I know.

Mia and Rolland look at each other then to Marie.

ROLLAND

I hope you know what you're doing.

Marie's wide smile shrinks as she ponders.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Boppa looks out his window. After a beat, he turns and walks through his small living area and towards his recliner. As he backs up to sit down, he lets gravity take its course.

BOPPA

Oh dear God!

He plops into his recliner. He looks around for a remote and clicks on the flat screen television in front of him. At the same time, his cell rings, so he clicks the TV back off.

He fumbles with it for a second trying to get it to answer.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Hello.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - NIGHT

[Marie is in her EDV (Electric Driver-less Vehicle) and is sitting behind the steering wheel, which is more like that of a large game controller. The EDV is driving itself.]

MARIE

Boppa, it's Marie.

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)

Who?

MARIE

Your Great Granddaughter Marie.

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)
Marie... why're you calling me.

MARIE
Need to ask you a favor.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

BOPPA
Has a boy been bothering you? Want
me to show him some manners?

INT. MARIE'S EDV - NIGHT

MARIE
No Boppa. (chuckles)

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)
You know I can still kick ass.

MARIE
That's not why I called.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

BOPPA
So what do I have the pleasure?

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
I need your help. I have to write a
story for my senior thesis and a
potential job.

BOPPA
Is that so. Tell me, what can an
old fart like me do to help you?

There is a slight pause.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
I want to write about you, what
times were like, how you lived your
life and the changes.

Boppa's face goes slowly from a smile to blank.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

BOPPA

Don't know, Peanut. I'm not that interesting... just old.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

Bull dink, you've done more and seen more than anyone I know.

BOPPA

Because I'm old. That doesn't mean anything.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - NIGHT

Marie bites her lip and looks around thinking to herself.

MARIE

I really need this for my final grade. This job in the stream would be huge. *Please* won't you to do this for me.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Boppa's face goes back to a smile.

BOPPA

Your Great Great Grandma Price would've enjoyed that little guilt trip you just took me on.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - NIGHT

MARIE

Then you'll do it?!

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Boppa runs his fingers through his beard.

BOPPA

I'll have conditions.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

Thanks Bop! I knew I could count on you!

BOPPA
 (chuckles)
 The assumptive close, nice.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - NIGHT

MARIE
 I'll spectra-call you tomorrow.

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)
 God, don't use that damn thing, you
 know I can't see it.

MARIE
 OK, I'll just ping you tomorrow
 before I come over.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - NIGHT

With a conspiratorial look on his face, he whispers out loud.

BOPPA
 You know what to bring right?

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
 Of course! I wasn't born yesterday.

BOPPA
 OK then Peanut. Bye.

Boppa holds the phone up to his face and pushes a couple of times, puts it closer to his ear to see if he can hear anything, then presses it again before setting it down.

He raises his left hand up and strokes his beard. He looks around his room, at the mementos and the pictures of he and his wife. As he ponders, he slowly gets a big smile on his face, then lowers his hand and nods his head.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Marie's roommate HENNESSY (21, tall, African American) is in the kitchen eating ramen noodles when Marie walks in.

MARIE
 S'up?!

HENNESSY
 Hey girl!

MARIE
Whatcha' doin'?

HENNESSY
Just having a bite before I run out
for the evening. Wanna join me?

Marie moves towards the refrigerator.

MARIE
For dinner or out?

HENNESSY
I meant out, unless you want to
share some ramen noodles.

Marie does the "yuck" face when Hennessy says ramen noodles and continues to root in the refrigerator. Hennessy is using chop sticks to eat her ramen, but is having some difficulty as Marie takes a couple of storage containers from the fridge and opens and smells the contents.

MARIE
Sorry, gotta prepare my thesis form
and notes for my subject interview.
I have to nail this project to get
the NFN gig.

HENNESSY
Thought you had to write a story.
Who do you have to interview?

Marie has decided on the least obnoxious smelling food container and sticks it into a medium sized white plastic box on the counter. She presses a button on top and it beeps.

MARIE
Warm. My Boppa.

HENNESSY
Oh, I love your Great Granddad.

Hennessy's face turns from a smile to concern.

HENNESSY (CONT'D)
Is he OK, I mean, after all he's
been through?

Marie takes the container out of the box and blows on it as she takes out a fork to eat the contents.

MARIE

Why does everyone think he can't do this? When I talked to him, he was on board one hundred percent.

Hennesy looks at Marie with a questioning glance.

HENNESSY

One hundred percent? Hmmm.

Marie, with a slight grin, begins to walk out of the kitchen.

MARIE

I took it that way. I'll find out tomorrow when I go see him.

Hennesy shakes her head and smiles.

HENNESSY

I'd have a back-up plan if I were you.

MARIE (O.C.)

It'll be fine. Have fun tonight.

HENNESSY

A hundred percent.

Hennesy throws her chopsticks into the sink and pulls out a fork to eat her ramen.

EXT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Marie bounds from her apartment door and waves to someone in the parking lot as she makes her way to her EDV.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

She presses a button on the dash and the EDV lights up. She punches in her destination and presses a button on the wheel and the vehicle pulls out of the parking space.

She takes her phone and sends Boppa a message. The display reads: "On my way over, see you soon!"

INT. BOPPA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Boppa's phone pings as it sits on his night stand. He picks it up, looks at the text and smiles. He pushes a few times on his phone to see if it's closed, then walks off.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

He walks into his main room towards his recliner and as he passes a picture, he stops and backs up. It's a picture of his wife HOPE/NANA (88, petite, platinum hair). He stares at it for a moment, kisses his fingers and touches the picture.

BOPPA

Let the adventure begin dear.

He winks at the picture then walks on.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

Marie is looking at some notes when her phone pings.

MARIE

Answer

MIA (ON SPEAKER)

Hey honey.

MARIE

Hey mom! Headed over to Bop's now.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

MIA

Listen, I know how you are, so if he doesn't want to answer questions, don't push him.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

He's not an infant.

MIA

Yes, but he's fragile. There's a few things you don't talk about...

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

MARIE

I know, politics...

Marie scrunches her face.

MARIE (CONT'D)

...what was that game he liked?

MIA (ON SPEAKER)

Baseball.

MARIE
Right, baseball and...

Her voice trails off.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Nana.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia slumps her shoulders as she musters a faint smile.

MIA
Just don't get him all amped up.
The monitor on his arm is his heart
monitor. If it gets close to 75,
you need to stop.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

MARIE
OK, I won't agitate Boppa.

MIA (ON SPEAKER)
Please be careful, I don't want
anything to happen to him.

MARIE
I will Mom. Love you! Close.

There are a few beeps and the call is ended.

EXT. BOPPA'S BUILDING - DAY

Marie's EDV pulls into a complex and past a sign that reads
"Lake Meadows Retirement Center" and pulls into a space.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

Marie takes a deep breath, picks up a fifth of bourbon and
shoves it into her purse.

She closes her eyes, bites her bottom lip then begins to tear
up, but only for a moment. She murmurs as she waves her hands
in front of her face to mask her teary eyes.

MARIE
Pull it together, you can do this.

She wipes her eyes, opens the door and gets out.

INT. BOPPA'S BUILDING NURSES STATION - DAY

Marie walks to the reception/nurses station and approaches the Head Nurse, NURSE DEITZ (50, big boned, in scrubs).

NURSE DEITZ

Welcome to Lake Meadows. Can I help you?

MARIE

I'm here to see Anthony Price.

Marie looks behind the Head Nurse, and sees a projection wall of monitors that show interiors of each of the rooms. She looks and finds Boppa's room and he's in his recliner.

NURSE DEITZ

Is he expecting you dear?

Marie looks down from the monitors.

MARIE

Yes, I'm his Great Granddaughter.
Going to interview him for my
senior thesis.

Nurse Deitz chuckles.

NURSE DEITZ

Well, I hope you brought your
shovel 'cause he can bullshit with
the best of them.

MARIE

(laughs)
I know!

Marie looks back at the monitors.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Do you watch them all day?

She points to the monitors, Nurse Deitz turns to look at them then back at Marie.

NURSE DEITZ

Yes, in case anyone falls or has an
issue, we can get to them quickly.

MARIE

What about their privacy?

Nurse Deitz feigns a smile.

NURSE DEITZ
There's no such thing as privacy
anymore.

With that, she points to a scanner.

NURSE DEITZ (CONT'D)
I need you to scan so I can get you
a visitors badge.

Marie walks over and pulls up her sleeve and twists her wrist to face the scanner. She has a small bar code tattoo on her wrist and as she scans it, all of her information pops up on a hologram in front of her.

NURSE DEITZ (CONT'D)
Thank you.

Nurse Deitz presses a button from the hologram and does a swipe and picks up a plastic badge with Marie's information.

NURSE DEITZ (CONT'D)
Wear this where it can be seen.
Mr. Price is in room ten ten.

Marie puts on the badge and starts to walk down the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

Marie approaches and reads the notes on the door:

[Anthony Price: High Cholesterol; Heart Monitor HM2101;
Quepac 500mg as needed.]

She lightly knocks on the door.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

Boppa snores in his recliner and doesn't hear the knocking.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

Marie looks around and notices a button to the side of the door, shrugs her shoulders then presses it.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

There is a loud buzz that startles Boppa awake.

BOPPA
(Snort) Wait, what!

He's not sure where he is for a moment, when it buzzes again.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Hold on, hold on. I'm coming...

He fights to get up, falling back once or twice.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

Marie puts her ear to the door.

MARIE
Boppa, you awake? Bop?

There's a clicking sound and the door swings open. Boppa smiles when he sees Marie.

BOPPA
Hey Peanut!

Marie moves in and gives him a big hug.

MARIE
Hey Bop!

BOPPA
You get better looking each time I see you.

MARIE
What's this mean?

Marie points to the line that says "HM2101".

BOPPA
What? Oh yeah, that's my new ball and chain.

He taps his finger on the device wrapped around his upper left arm. The display says 70.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Supposedly, if that number gets to 100, I'm a goner.

MARIE
How can it tell?

BOPPA
Beats the shit out of me.

She smiles as he shows her into his room.

INT. BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

Marie walks ahead of Boppa into his living space.

BOPPA

Haven't been here before, have you?

She looks around and takes in his place.

MARIE

No. Nicer than what I thought.

He goes to a small table that has two chairs and pulls one out for her as he sits in the other.

BOPPA

What did you expect?

MARIE

A cell the way mom explained it.

BOPPA

I do feel locked up. See that?

She looks up, but doesn't see anything out of the ordinary.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

The light.

Marie looks at the ceiling light fixture then notices that there is a rotating camera fixed to the bottom.

MARIE

Is that the camera they're watching at the desk?

He leans back in the chair he's in.

BOPPA

Yep, and there's one in the bathroom and one in my bedroom.

MARIE

In the bathroom? Eeeeeew!

BOPPA

Try and do your business when you know someone's watching you. Thank God *that's* not on that damn wall.

He looks to see if she is smiling.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Sure you still want to use me for
your paper?

She puts a smile back on her face and takes out a small Cube
from her purse which clinks against the bottle of bourbon..

MARIE

That's exactly why!

He leans in and strains his neck to see in her purse.

BOPPA

Did I hear my down payment?

She digs into her purse and pulls the bottle out.

MARIE

Had to use some of my birthday
money to afford this.

It's a bottle of Makers Mark Cask strength. He holds the
bottle like it's the most delicate thing he's held.

MARIE (CONT'D)

I remember Pops telling me that
Makers was your favorite. That OK?

He looks at her with a big grin.

BOPPA

It sure is... Thank you! How did
you get it past the front desk?

She looks surprised.

MARIE

What do you mean?

BOPPA

They check everything you carry in
to be sure you're not bringing
something I shouldn't have.

MARIE

She never asked. Is that bad?

He looks up to the camera and quickly slides the bottle under
the table.

BOPPA

Shit, hopefully they didn't see it.

Marie looks around frantically.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Don't worry, but if there's a knock
at the door, put it in the side
pocket of my chair over there.

He points at his recliner as Marie nods. Once he straightens
up from putting the bottle on the floor, he turns to her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

All right then, I said that was the
down payment. Are you ready to hear
my main demand?

She nods with approval. Boppa leans in towards her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I want you to take me home.

She looks surprised.

MARIE

You wouldn't like my place.

His look is very serious.

BOPPA

I don't want you to take me to *your*
home, I want to go to my home.

Her posture slumps a little as she responds.

MARIE

They sold your house when...

He puts up his hand as if to say stop.

BOPPA

I sold my house, and that's not
what I meant. I said I want to go
home... to where I grew up.

She fidgets with her purse as he talks.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I want to prove them wrong when
they say that you can't go home.

MARIE

I don't think anyone will let me
take you out of the building, let
alone the state.

Boppa smiles then cocks his head to the side.

BOPPA
Won't you do this one thing for
your ailing old Great Grandpa?

She sees what he's doing and grins.

MARIE
Nice guilt trip!

BOPPA
Instead of a guilt trip, let's take
what we called, a road trip.

She ponders that for a beat.

MARIE
Mom would never let me do that.

He pulls out a tablet and swipes a couple of times, then
turns it towards her.

BOPPA
Nobody needs to know. Read that.

She takes the tablet and reads it out loud.

MARIE
Occupant, while monitored, may
leave for up to 24 hours if signed
out by an adult relative registered
with the facility.

Marie looks up at Boppa.

MARIE (CONT'D)
I said Mom would never do this.

He points to the tablet.

BOPPA
It said an adult relative.

MARIE
Registered with this facility.

BOPPA
My dear, you're an adult and you
are registered. I registered the
whole damn family just in case.

Her smile fades.

MARIE

I don't know, I mean you're being monitored...

He taps the monitor on his arm.

BOPPA

This'll read anywhere.

MARIE

Yeah but, this is way over my head. Mom and Dad would be horked off if they knew about this.

She ponders a beat.

MARIE (CONT'D)

But I do need this for my thesis and NFN.

She exhales deeply, then looks up to him.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Road trip you say?

He winks at her as he smiles.

BOPPA

Yes. Plenty of time for you to ask all the questions you want.

Boppa leans in and nudges her arm with his elbow.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Come on, what d'you say? Why don't you live a little and let me worry about your parents.

She looks at her Cube, then puts it back in her purse.

MARIE

Guess I won't need this today. I'll check my work schedule and see if I can get this weekend off to...

BOPPA

Let's go now.

Marie's expression changes to that of surprise.

MARIE

Now?! I can't take you now.

Boppa picks up a small backpack sitting next to the table and reaches for the Makers and wraps it in a towel to put inside.

BOPPA
I'm ready now.

MARIE
Maybe I should just call Mom and...

BOPPA
Nope! Just me and you or nothing!

Marie stares at him incredulously, shakes her head and looks away before turning back with a little attitude.

MARIE
You're not doing the math. That's twelve hours driving and you only get twenty four. We'd get there and have to turn right back around.

He waves a credit card in front of her face.

BOPPA
We're going to take the bullet!

Marie, stunned momentarily, stops in her tracks.

MARIE
A trip... on the bullet?!

She calms down, looks away for a beat, then turns.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Guess I'll have to take you to my place... so I can pack a bag.

BOPPA
(smiles)
Come on then, let's spring me outta here!

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE BOPPA'S ROOM - DAY

As Boppa and Marie leave his room, two elderly women, covered in tattoos, walk by and smile at them. Boppa shakes his head and whispers to Marie.

BOPPA
There's a whole generation of people with saggy tattoos.

Marie giggles.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Saw Mrs. Phelps tramp stamp last
 week. It's sunk into her shorts.

With that, Marie busts out laughing as the women turn to look
 at them. Boppa waves as Marie covers her mouth.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Ladies!

The women shake their heads as he and Marie head down the
 hallway arm in arm laughing.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Was that a butterfly or an
 albatross on her arm?

INT. BOPPA'S BUILDING NURSES STATION - DAY

Marie and Boppa walk towards the nurse's station. Nurse Deitz
 sees them approaching and eyes them suspiciously.

BOPPA
 Hello Nurse Diesel!

NURSE DEITZ
 I've told you a thousand times
 that's not my name.

BOPPA
 Sorry, you must remind me of
 another nurse.

Nurse Deitz feigns a smile.

NURSE DEITZ
 Going to take a walk in the garden?

BOPPA
 Nope, gonna walk around the lake
 and a stroll through the meadow.

NURSE DEITZ
 What lake?

BOPPA
 Isn't this lake meadows?

Nurse Deitz has had enough of Boppa and looks to Marie.

NURSE DEITZ
 Be sure not to leave the premises.

Marie looks quickly up at Boppa then to the Nurse Deitz.

MARIE

I'd like to check Bop... Great Grandpa Price out for the day.

BOPPA

Twenty four hours...

MARIE

Right, twenty four hours.

Nurse Deitz shakes her head.

NURSE DEITZ

Sorry sweetie, only someone with his Power of Attorney or a registered adult relative can check him out.

Marie holds out the badge that the Head Nurse gave her showing her credentials.

MARIE

I'm an adult and he's my Great Grandpa.

Nurse Deitz realizes what's going on.

NURSE DEITZ

Oh, I see. I'll have to notify Mr. Price's emergency contact that he's being signed out.

BOPPA

Bullshit!

Marie and Nurse Deitz look towards Boppa in slight shock.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I've read that damn agreement a hundred times over. You don't have to notify anyone as long as I'm with a registered adult relative... and she's registered. Go on check!

Nurse Deitz grits her teeth, then relaxes.

NURSE DEITZ

All right Mr. Price, don't get all trumpian with me.

Marie looks at Boppa's monitor and it says 73.

BOPPA
Thank you Nurse Diesel...

She scowls at him.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Sorry, old habit.

Nurse Deitz opens up her hologram system and makes a few gestures as she swipes through information.

NURSE DEITZ
I'll need to set your monitor to remote read.

The smile quickly leaves his face as she brings up Anthony Price and makes a couple of pushing motions on the hologram device. There is a "ting" sound on Boppa's arm monitor.

He looks at the monitor and notices that Marie is looking at it as well. He smiles to reassure her.

NURSE DEITZ (CONT'D)
I'll need you to both sign.

Nurse Deitz spins the hologram around so that it's facing Marie and Boppa and they sign with their fingers.

NURSE DEITZ (CONT'D)
Where're you two headed?

Marie quickly looks up at Boppa and he turns to Nurse Deitz.

BOPPA
Just doin' some family things.

NURSE DEITZ
Do you have all of your meds?

BOPPA
Can't forget my happy pills.

He jiggles his pants pocket and you can hear the rattle of objects in a bottle. Nurse Deitz turns towards Marie.

NURSE DEITZ
OK sweetie, you're all set. Sure hope you know what you're doing.

MARIE
Why does everyone say that?!

She takes Boppa's arm and they head for the door.

EXT. BOPPA'S BUILDING - DAY

Marie helps Boppa into the front seat of her EDV, then goes around and gets in on the drivers side.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

She latches her seat belt as he wrestles with his.

BOPPA
 Goddamn seat belts. Used to stand
 on the front seat when I was a kid.

Marie smiles as he fiddles with the latch until it finally locks in. He turns to her as she punches in the coordinates.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Don't you know how to get to your
 own place?

MARIE
 Sure, but why drive when it'll do
 it for me?

Boppa rolls his eyes.

BOPPA
 You can't drive your own car?

MARIE
 EDV.

BOPPA
 Whatever.

Marie smiles and presses a button on the steering column.

EXT. BOPPA'S BUILDING - DAY

Marie's EDV pulls out of the parking lot and onto the street.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Marie enters the apartment and quickly heads to her room (moves off screen). Hennessy comes into the room trying to figure out who just came in.

HENNESSY
 Hello?!

MARIE (O.S.)
Hey, it's me!

Hennessy walks towards Marie's door and into her room.

INT. MARIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

HENNESSY
What's wrong? Weren't you going to
talk to your Great Grandpa?

Marie puts some clothes into a bag of her own.

MARIE
Technically, I am.

Hennessy looks perplexed.

HENNESSY
'Scuse me?

MARIE
Yep, he's outside right now.

They look out the window to the parking lot where Boppa sits
in the passenger seat of her EDV.

MARIE (CONT'D)
The only way he'll do this is if I
take him to his childhood home.

HENNESSY
Where the hell is that?

MARIE
Ohio.

Hennessy shakes her head and looks out the window.

HENNESSY
Ohio! Are you garbu?! Can he make a
trip like that?

Hennessy looks after Marie as she slips into the bathroom.

MARIE (O.S.)
Physically I think, mentally for
sure.

Marie walks back into her bedroom carrying a few toiletries
and puts them in her bag.

MARIE (CONT'D)
 Besides, we're goin' on the bullet.

Marie scoots out of her room and Hennessy follows her.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

HENNESSY
 What if he has a heart attack or something?

MARIE
 Jesus Christ, don't say that! I was nervous enough about this paper and the NFN stream, I don't need to worry about his health too.

Marie looks towards Hennessy and composes herself.

MARIE (CONT'D)
 Look, I don't have time to spare on this project. Please keep this to yourself, I'm not telling my folks or anyone else what's going on.

Hennessy shakes her head then smiles at Marie.

HENNESSY
 That would freak me out.

MARIE
 It is freaking me out. I just can't let him see that.

They stare at each other for a beat.

HENNESSY
 If anyone can handle it, it's you. Can I at least say hi to him?

Marie is already walking to the door.

MARIE
 Come on then, I can't leave him sitting out there all day.

Hennessy bounds over a few things and follows Marie out.

EXT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

They approach the EDV and notice Boppa's eyes are closed. Marie seems to panic and knocks on the window.

MARIE

Bop!

He jolts his eyes open and presses a button for the window.

BOPPA

Can't I close my eyes for a minute?

Marie and Hennessy both look relieved.

MARIE

For the love of...

Boppa grins and turns his attention to Hennessy.

BOPPA

Courvoisier isn't it?

HENNESSY

(chuckles)

No Mr. Price, it's Hennessy.

Boppa points a finger at her.

BOPPA

Knew it was something like that.

Are you joining us?

Marie puts her stuff in the back of the EDV then walks around to the drivers side. Hennessy leans in to talk to Boppa.

HENNESSY

Oh, I would love to, but I can't.

Marie gets in and leans over Boppa to talk to Hennessy.

MARIE

Remember, tell no one about this.

Hennessy just shakes her head and backs away from the EDV as Boppa puts his window back up. Hennessy waves as the EDV pulls out of the lot onto the street.

HENNESSY

Good luck! You're going to need it.

INT. MARIE'S EDV - DAY

Marie and Boppa get comfortable as the EDV drives itself down the road. Marie faces Boppa as he is facing the windshield.

BOPPA

I remember when they first started talking about driver-less vehicles. It was back in the mid teens... right after your parents were born.

MARIE

Mom told us we were one of the last in our neighborhood to have one.

Boppa looks at Marie.

BOPPA

Cause your Dad's a tightwad.

They smile at that. Boppa stares out the front windshield for a moment or two then blurts out:

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Well, we know what your roommate's mother liked to drink.

MARIE

What?!

Boppa looks towards Marie.

BOPPA

Supposedly, you name your child after what you drank at the time of conception. She must have had some Hennessy cognac.

Boppa smiles for a beat.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Your Grandpa should've been called Boone's Farm and Great Aunt Syd would have been called Zima.

Boppa laughs out loud at that as Marie shakes her head.

MARIE

You're weird.

They both look ahead, then Marie slowly turns.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Do you need anything?

BOPPA

No, I'm fine.

Marie feigns a smile. He notices that something doesn't seem quite right and tries to reassure her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You know, back when I was in radio, I went to my grandmother to ask the same things I'm sure you're going to ask me. Turned me down, said she didn't have anything anyone would want to hear. I tried, but she just wouldn't do it.

Boppa's smile has gone to a blank stare.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I've regretted that my whole life... that's why I'm doing this for you.

Marie looks up to him and now smiles in earnest.

MARIE

Thanks.

BOPPA

I reserved a hotel room for us.

Her look now goes to curious.

MARIE

Just when did you do that?

BOPPA

Yesterday, right after you called.

MARIE

What if I would've said no?

BOPPA

Did you?

Marie doesn't say anything as Boppa smiles.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Just being prepared.

EXT. BULLET TRAIN STATION - DAY

Marie's EDV pulls into the parking lot of the bullet train station and parks. They get out, grab their bags and walk arm in arm towards the station door.

INT. BULLET TRAIN STATION - DAY

Marie and Boppa walk into the station and towards a kiosk. A hologram appears and asks them to scan. Marie scans her wrist and her information pops up. Boppa just stands there.

MARIE

You gotta scan.

Boppa slowly rolls his sleeve and turns his wrist to scan.

BOPPA

Feels like a damn sci-fi movie.

His information pops up including a warning that he is under medical surveillance. There is a couple of loud beeps.

MARIE

What's wrong?

He taps his monitor

BOPPA

Have to check my monitor.

As Boppa says that, the STATION ATTENDANT (30, Average female dressed in a uniform) approaches.

STATION ATTENDANT

Hello Mr. Price. Where're you headed today?

BOPPA

Taking my Great Granddaughter back to Ohio to see my hometown.

The station attendant is pressing some items on the hologram.

STATION ATTENDANT

Isn't that nice. When was the last time your monitor was calibrated?

Boppa rolls his eyes.

BOPPA

Last week, on March 4th. I know that because it would have been my 70th wedding anniversary.

Marie and the attendant turn to look at Boppa.

STATION ATTENDANT

I'm so sorry Mr. Price.

Boppa puts up his hand as if to say it's OK. The attendant gives a half smile and presses some buttons on her tablet.

STATION ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
OK, looks like you're all set.

Marie looks at Boppa as he buttons the cuff of his sleeve.

STATION ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
Keep your arm monitor where it can be seen. Hope you have a nice trip.

Boppa finishes with his sleeve and looks at the kiosk.

MARIE
You OK?

BOPPA
Yep! Not going to let anyone get under my skin on this trip.

He puts in their destination and goes to put his credit card in, but can't find where to do it. Marie notices.

MARIE
Press here then use your phone.

She points to the glowing hologram button that says payment options. He smiles and puts his arm around her shoulders.

There's a bing and two plastic cards spit out of the kiosk. Marie takes them and they walk towards the platform.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Compartment car?

BOPPA
Sparing no expense on this trip!

MARIE
That's flad!

BOPPA
Flad?

MARIE
Yea, you know, flad.

BOPPA
No, I don't know.

MARIE
Like, um, good.

BOPPA

Oh, you mean neat, cool, hip, rad,
gnarly, awesome, dope.

MARIE

You really are weird.

BOPPA

Takes one to know one.

They smile as they make their way to the boarding gates.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Marie and Boppa enter a private compartment car with two bench seats and a small table near the window. Marie puts her bag in the overhead storage and turns to Boppa.

MARIE

Let me help you with that.

Boppa pulls his backpack closer to him.

BOPPA

I got it.

Marie puts up both hands. Boppa turns from Marie, opens his backpack to get out the bottle of bourbon. He puts his bag up, turns and sits down on one bench and Marie on the other. They stare at each other.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Well?

MARIE

Don't you want to wait until we get going?

BOPPA

Dear, I can't afford to wait too long for anything at my age.

She reaches in her bag and places the Cube on the table between them. She presses a button and a hologram appears and looks like a camera facing towards Boppa.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Why does everything have to be a hologram these days?

MARIE

It's a Cube Complete. It both records and projects.

Boppa shakes his head.

BOPPA
From your Aunt Jade I assume.

MARIE
You know it!

BOPPA
Hmmm. So do you have questions or
do you want me to just ramble?

MARIE
Knock it off. I thought I'd just
ask you some questions and then if
we go linear, we go linear.

BOPPA
If you mean tangents, I guarantee
there'll be tangents.

He takes a deep breath and exhales.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
OK, shoot.

She takes out some notes and looks at Boppa.

MARIE
Cube, record. You ready?

BOPPA
You better hurry up, we'll be in
Columbus in an hour.

She smiles nervously and looks at her notes again.

MARIE
This is Anthony Nicholas Price.
He's 89 years 5 months and 2 days
old.

He stares at her and starts to get a big grin on his face.

MARIE (CONT'D)
He's my Great Grandfather and we
call him Boppa. So, how did the
name Boppa come about?

The smile leaves his face and he swipes his hand.

BOPPA
You know that story.

MARIE

I know, but I want you to tell it.

He shakes his head, then leans back.

BOPPA

All right. When your mother was born, Hope; your Great Grandmother and I didn't want to be called Grandma and Grandpa. We were almost 50...

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. BOPPA'S CAR (2010) - DAY

Boppa and Nana drive down the road in front of a mall.

BOPPA 50

The mall's packed! Wonder what's...

NANA 50

(In Marie's voice)

What's a mall?

BOPPA 50

What?

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

MARIE

What's a mall?

He looks stunned by the question.

MARIE (CONT'D)

You said the mall was packed.

He shakes his head.

BOPPA

It's a lot of stores under one roof.

MARIE

I don't get it.

BOPPA

It was before the virus scare of twenty and you ordered everything and it showed up on your doorstep.

MARIE

Oh, like the retro specialty shops and the liquor store.

BOPPA

Sure, but in one big building.

She shakes her head.

MARIE

Imagine that.

He leans forward.

BOPPA

All right, I'll make it simple. Your Great Grandmother and I didn't want to be called Grandma and Grandpa because that's what we used to yell at older drivers.

MARIE

What do you mean?

Boppa shouts.

BOPPA

Get out of the way Grandpa!

Marie is startled momentarily then nods that she gets it.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I wanted to be called Big Papa Nick, but was overruled by your Grandparents... and Nana.

He taps his hand on his leg then smiles and speaks with a quieter voice.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

So Boppa was short for Big Papa.

There's an odd silence for a beat.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Could we stop for a second?

Marie leans in and as she speaks the hologram disappears.

MARIE

Cube, stop recording. You OK?

He pauses for a beat, then takes a deep breath.

BOPPA

Is that thing off?

She nods. He purses his lips before speaking.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Were you told not to ask me certain questions or to bring up Nana?

Marie's eyes shift back and forth as she thinks.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

That's what I figured.

Marie looks worried.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You don't have to tip toe around mentioning Nana. She was my everything and I miss her more than life itself, but trying not to mention her, *like the rest of the family*, won't get us very far. Fair?

She nods.

MARIE

OK Bop.

BOPPA

I suppose they told you not to bring up politics?

MARIE

Yeah, and baseball.

Boppa throws his head back and pounds the table.

BOPPA

God dammit. Those greedy bastards killed the best game ever invented.

Marie is taken aback by his outburst.

MARIE

Sorry, I didn't mean to...

BOPPA

Why? Why did they have to do that?

Marie cowers, which he notices and he reigns in his tirade.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

That son of a... I'm... I'm sorry.

Boppa takes a big breath and she notes his monitor says 79.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

We'll save that one for after I've had a few slugs of this.

He taps the bottle of bourbon.

MARIE

We OK then?

He nods and she presses the button on the cube to open the hologram back up.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Cube, record. All right, now that we know how Boppa came about, let me ask you this... what is radio?

Boppa squints his eyes and opens his mouth slightly.

BOPPA

What is radio?

MARIE

Yeah, earlier you said when you were in radio.

He seems baffled, then a look of realization comes over him.

BOPPA

Good God, I forgot that died out before you were born.

Boppa runs his hand through his scruffy beard.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Radio was how you listened to music when you didn't have a record player or tape deck.

Marie sits back.

MARIE

What's a record player and tape deck?

BOPPA

We're gonna need more than this damn trip if we keep going over things that have died out since I was your age.

Marie slumps and he senses that statement was overwhelming.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

OK, what was radio... let's start there. When you were at the beach, or the pool, or just driving over to a friends house, you always had your favorite station on, listening to the tunes. The true theater of the mind.

Marie sits back and takes in what Boppa is saying.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I wanted to be a sportscaster on TV, but I had a face for radio.

He gets a big smile on his face.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. 1989 RADIO CONTROL BOOTH - DAY

25-year-old Boppa sits behind the microphone sorting records and CDs as "Get Back" by The Beatles plays.

BOPPA (V.O.)

I had just helped sign on a new radio station in our home town.

MARIE (V.O.)

I love the Beatles!

BOPPA (V.O.)

Let me tell the story.

MARIE (V.O.)

Sorry.

BOPPA (V.O.)

It's funny the little things you can recall 65 years later.

As the song ends and the extended version where John Lennon says he hopes they passed the audition, 25-year-old Boppa cracks the microphone open to talk.

BOPPA 25

(British accent))

Sorry Mr. Lennon, not sure you lads
are our cup of tea.

(back to regular voice)

That was The Beatles and "Get Back"
at 25 minutes past the hour. You're
five minutes away from a news
update with Bob Hucker, but
first...

He presses a button and we hear:

BOPPA 25 (V.O.) IN BOOMING VOICE

It's time now for, "Dial a Somewhat
Clean Dirty Joke!"

As that finishes, he presses another button that has the
sound effects of a phone dialing and ringing.

BOPPA 25

That's right, it's Dial a Somewhat
Clean Dirty Joke...

(sfx phone ring)

(Jewish accent)

Hello, and thank you for calling
Dial a Somewhat Clean Dirty Joke.

(Regular Voice)

You're welcome. What have you got
for us today?

(Jewish accent)

There was this 16-year-old kid and
he goes into a pharmacy to buy a
box of condoms.

(Regular voice)

OK...

(Jewish accent)

He finds a box for five dollars and
takes them to the druggist.

The druggist rings it up and says,
"That'll be five and a quarter."

The kid looks at the druggist and
says "Heeeeeey, what's the quarter
for?" The druggist says, "That's
for the tax" to which the young kid
says... "I wondered how they kept
those things on!"

(sfx Rimshot)

Thank you for calling Dial a
Somewhat Clean Dirty Joke, now get
out of here mashugana!

The sound effects of a phone hanging up is the cue to head into a commercial. He looks at the 5 phone lines and they are all blinking. He clicks on the first line.

BOPPA 25 (CONT'D)

Super Z!

IRATE CALLER (ON SPEAKER)

What the hell was that! You can't say condoms on the radio!

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Marie looks dumbfounded.

MARIE

Someone was offended by that?

BOPPA

(chuckles)

Yep. Sometimes the picture got painted too well.

MARIE

What else died out that you used to take for granted?

He rubs his forehead as he thinks.

BOPPA

Well, newspapers, records, tapes, VCR's, DVD's, CD's, two hundred pound twenty inch TV's. But I don't think we took any of those for granted.

He pulls back for a beat, then shakes his head and laughs.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You know, I just realized my generation really fu...

He stops before he drops the F bomb.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

...uh...screwed things up.

She doesn't have a clue what he's talking about.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I always used to say that youth soccer was the downfall of western civilization...everyone gets a trophy mentality.

He glances at Marie who looks perplexed.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

When I was a kid, you tried out for the team. You either won or lost a game. Taught you how to be humble in victory and accept defeat.

He still senses that Marie still doesn't get it.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You see, my mother and father were born during the Great Depression. They made sacrifices and always watched their money.

MARIE

Thought the Great Depression was thirty five years ago?

Boppa winces when she says that.

BOPPA

I'm not talking about that fiasco after our so called President, drug the economy into the toilet. I'm talking about the thirties and forties from the twentieth century.

She nods as he ponders.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

What an asshole.

MARIE

Who?

Boppa points to his monitor, which now says 78, as he speaks.

BOPPA

Never mind, don't want my number to rise any higher.

MARIE

You were saying something about youth soccer?

BOPPA

Right...My generation vowed that
our children would get the things
we didn't have.

He shakes his head as he looks off into the distance.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Had no idea that we were starting
generations of entitlement.

MARIE

My generation isn't entitled.

He looks straight at her over the top of his glasses.

BOPPA

I'm not here to debate facts.

She takes that point further and puts her hands on the table.

MARIE

Name one way my generation is
entitled.

BOPPA

We rode to the bullet station in a
vehicle you didn't have to drive.

MARIE

Just because we have technical
advantages doesn't mean we're
entitled.

He is impressed with her come back.

BOPPA

OK, I'll give you that. How did
you pay for it?

She scrunches her forehead.

MARIE

Dad got it for me.

BOPPA

Could you afford a 2034 Ford
Finale?

MARIE

A what?

BOPPA

The last gas powered vehicle made
by Ford motor company.

MARIE

I don't even know how to drive one,
let alone the cost.

He smiles because he knows he has her.

BOPPA

Well my dear, a twenty year old gas
powered vehicle would run you about
two grand. You've got a job right?

MARIE

Yes, well, part time.

BOPPA

What do you spend your money on?

MARIE

Food, clothes.

He taps his index finger on the table.

BOPPA

That's why you and most of your
friends are entitled.

MARIE

Because my parents got me an EDV?

BOPPA

And pay your rent, and pay for your
school, and...

She stops him.

MARIE

OK, I get it. But I don't see why
that's considered being entitled.

BOPPA

Gen Xer's, Millenials, Gen Zer's,
and your generation...

He looks to her for the name.

MARIE

Advancers.

BOPPA

Right, Generation A, all gradually became more entitled because each preceding generation wanted more for those after them. The Boomers, started that.

She shakes her head.

MARIE

I understand your premise, but I don't believe in your conclusion.

He grins as she lets go of Boppa's hands, leans back and looks out the window at the scenery whizzing by.

MARIE (CONT'D)

I didn't realize we left the station.

BOPPA

Yep, smooth and fast, like this!

He pats the bottle as she stares off into the distance. He senses something's wrong and looks to her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Let's turn this thing off for a while and just relax.

She nods and presses a button on the cube. A flashing message in the hologram says "Are You Done Recording". She presses the yes button and the hologram goes away.

She stares out the window as he tilts his head in contemplation.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

How'my doin'?

She looks back and does a half hearted smile.

MARIE

Fine.

BOPPA

Just fine?

MARIE

Sorry, just got a lot on my mind.

BOPPA

Whatcha thinkin' about?

Her expression goes static and she turns again to the window.

MARIE
Everything.

BOPPA
That narrows it down.

She feigns a smile.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Come on, out with it.

MARIE
Just thinking about what you said.
I'm just... I'm kinda scared.

BOPPA
Of what?

She fidgets a bit.

MARIE
School... work... life.

He sits back and listens.

MARIE (CONT'D)
I don't know that I've ever really
worked hard for anything. Then you
say my generation is entitled
and...

BOPPA
Whoa, hold on, I didn't mean it
like that.

MARIE
Like, it all just hit me one day
that I have to start being an
adult. I'm not sure I know what
that means.

He reaches for her hand and rubs it.

BOPPA
I'm not even sure what being an
adult is, don't think anybody does.

MARIE
Everyone looks at me like I've got
it all figured out. Well, I don't.

BOPPA

Good, that's what makes life worth living.

MARIE

I sat in my EDV the other day and balled for an hour.

BOPPA

And did it get you anywhere?

She looks to him with moist eyes.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Look, if you take away anything from what I tell you on this trip, remember this; worrying about something doesn't solve it, it only makes it worse. Have confidence in yourself and what you do. If you do that, you can accomplish anything.

Her smile perks up a bit as he slaps her hands lightly.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Also, Nana's Grandpa once told me to never confess to anything. He was a police chief so I think he knew what he was talking about.

She giggles, then wipes her eyes.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I could use a belt after all that, but we'll need some glasses and a bottle of water.

He gets up and starts to head for the door.

MARIE

Let me get it. You just, what does Mom call it... chillax.

She slides the door open, walks out and waves to Boppa through the glass as she walks away.

Boppa looks out the door to be sure she is gone, then reaches and touches his backpack and looks up.

BOPPA

She takes after you dear.

Boppa closes his eyes for a moment.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
We'll be there soon.

He sits down and stares out the window as it speeds into the Blue Ridge mountains and smiles.

He's startled out of his trance when the door to the compartment opens and Marie comes back in.

MARIE
Couldn't find glasses. These OK?

She holds up two plain plastic water cups.

BOPPA
I'd drink this out of a dirty shoe
if I had to. Those'll do just fine.

She sits down as he fights with the wax ring on the bottle. He raises it to his teeth and she takes the bottle from him.

MARIE
Let me get that.

She removes the wax ring and opens the bottle.

BOPPA
Can't even open a bottle of hooch
anymore.

MARIE
Pops has problems opening these.

BOPPA
Yea, but your Granddad's a goon.

They both chuckle. He slowly pours a small amount for her, then pours his cup about a third of the way.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Always add a splash of water to
your Bourbon. Goes down smoother.

He pours a glug of water into her cup, and taps at the end of the water bottle for a small amount of water to enter his. He sets the water down, and raises his cup to toast.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Here's to an exciting adventure
with my favorite Great
Granddaughter.

MARIE
I'm your only Great Granddaughter.

Boppa looks out of the corner of his eye at her.

BOPPA
Don't ruin the moment.

He belts back the whole cup at once as Marie sips hers and makes a pinched face and shakes her head.

MARIE
Eeeeyaaah! Wow, how can you just
down it like that?

BOPPA
Lots of practice. That's some good
stuff right there.

He smiles wide as he pours himself another.

MARIE
Hey, hold on. How much are you
allowed to have?

BOPPA
Allowed to have? My dear, if you
haven't noticed, I'm of legal age.

MARIE
I'm not worried about your age, I'm
worried about your health.

BOPPA
I know when I've had enough.

MARIE
That may well be, but I don't.

He smiles as he sits back in his seat.

BOPPA
I'll behave myself.

Marie pushes her cup to the side and moves the Cube back to the center of the table.

MARIE
Let's get another question or two
out of the way.

BOPPA
Speaking of out of the way.

He reaches over and takes Marie's cup and pours it into his.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You really don't want this, and I
really don't want to waste it.

With that, he belts back another big swig of the Makers as Marie shakes her head.

MARIE

How did you make it to 90 drinking
like that?

With an exaggerated grin and a voice that sounds like he's been sucker punched.

BOPPA

It's a good preservative.

Marie grins as she prepares the Cube.

MARIE

Cube record.

The hologram reappears and starts recording.

MARIE (CONT'D)

How was your drink?

He leans down and looks right into the hologram.

BOPPA

Wonderful!

He smiles wide after saying that. Marie chuckles.

MARIE

Before you fall off your seat, let
me ask you this.

She looks into Boppa's eyes as he waits for the question.

MARIE (CONT'D)

How did you and Nana meet?

He sits up straight in his seat and looks out the window. Marie looks at his arm band and it shows 77 on his monitor.

BOPPA

Wow, haven't thought about that for
a long time. Every day seemed like
the first for me.

Marie smiles as he turns towards her and continues.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 We were still in high school. Both
 seniors going to different schools.

Boppa looks back out the window.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 You know how they talk about love
 at first sight?

He looks towards Marie and she nods.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 That's bullshit...
 (beat)
 for most, but not for me. God, she
 was beautiful, always was, but that
 first time, wow!

Marie sits forward to listen more intently.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 It's the way a lot of people meet,
 at a party. When I saw Nana I, I
 just melted.

Marie reaches over and touches his hand.

MARIE
 Did Nana feel the same way?

Boppa laughs out loud.

BOPPA
 No, afraid not. I was with some
 friends and I think we scared her.

He takes the last drink of his Makers and sets the cup down.

MARIE
 Come on, I watched you and Nana,
 she wouldn't be scared of you.

BOPPA
 You're right, she wasn't scared as
 much as I was.

MARIE
 Why were you scared?

BOPPA
 I knew I had to be with her, which
 meant I would have to call her.
 (MORE)

BOPPA (CONT'D)
That's the only time in my entire
life where I was bashful.

MARIE
I don't believe you.

He looks right at her.

BOPPA
I was petrified!

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. BOPPA'S PARENTS HOUSE - NIGHT

18 year old Boppa looks through a phone book.

BOPPA (V.O.)
You had to get up the nerve, look
up a number, from a book no less...

18 year old Boppa dials a rotary phone.

BOPPA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Dial a rotary phone and then pray
to God that *she* answered and not
one of her parents... or worse.

MARIE (V.O.)
Worse?

18 year old Boppa makes a quick surprised look and hangs up
the phone.

BOPPA (V.O.)
A brother or sister!

18 year old Boppa dials the phone again and looks up and
mouths a little prayer.

BOPPA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We had to use a phone mounted on a
wall or sitting on a table, usually
in the same room as your family.
Unless you had a 20 foot cord.

MARIE (V.O.)
Cord?

18 year old Boppa pulls the phone cord into another room and
shuts the door.

BOPPA (V.O.)
 They were hard wired. Mobile meant
 you could pull that cord into
 another room and shut the door.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Marie just shakes her head.

MARIE
 God, that would've sucked!

BOPPA
 Indeed, the big hairy one!

They laugh. Marie notices his monitor has now gone up to 81.

MARIE
 Are you OK Bop?

He looks back at her puzzled.

BOPPA
 Yes, why?

MARIE
 Your monitor, it's at 81.

He looks at it then smiles.

BOPPA
 What, Oh, just thinking of Nana.

Marie stares at it for a beat, but let's it go.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Woo, that Makers went to my head
 quicker than usual. Probably
 should have eaten something today.

MARIE
 You haven't eaten?!

BOPPA
 I'm alright. Whadaya say we take a
 TV time out and just relax.

Marie presses some buttons on the Cube, but doesn't notice
 the Cube does not stop recording, it just hides the hologram.

MARIE

Do you need a nap?

BOPPA

I'll just rest my eyes.

MARIE

I'm going to hit the bathroom real quick. Will you be OK without me?

Boppa looks at her and nods.

BOPPA

Pretty sure I can make it during your piddle break.

Marie opens the door to the compartment.

MARIE

Be right back.

She closes the door and Boppa reaches for his left arm and rubs it just above the monitor.

BOPPA

Damn thing, you're giving me away.

He looks at it and it now says 83. He reaches into his pants pocket and pulls out a box of Tic-Tacs, and shakes them like he did to fool the nurse into thinking he had his pills.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Now I wish I would've brought those goddamn pills.

He pops a couple Tic-Tacs in his mouth and puts the box back in his pocket. He leans back and closes his eyes to rest.

The hologram reappears and flashes the message "Continue Recording?". When he doesn't notice, it closes itself and stops recording after five seconds.

His monitor shows 85 and a blue dot glows next to the number.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia reads her hologram tablet when she glances at her phone. An app entitled HM2101 has a blue glow, she clicks on it and it tells her Anthony Price is registering 85 on his monitor and may need attention.

MIA

Oh no, oh no, oh no... I knew it!

Mia quickly turns to phone mode and presses Marie's name.

INT. BULLET TRAIN BATHROOM - DAY

Marie sits on the toilet when she sees her Mom is calling.

MARIE

Oh crap!

She clicks it to voicemail then texts. The display reads "Hey mom, what's up?"

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

MARIE (V.O.)

Hey y'all, sorry I can't talk now.
Just leave me a message.

Mia hangs up when her phone pings. Mia reads the message and types back. The display reads "What is wrong with Boppa? His monitor says he needs medical attention!"

INT. BULLET TRAIN HALLWAY - DAY

Marie quickly walks and snaps her pants on her way back to the compartment and types. The display reads "He's fine!"

MARIE

He better be fine.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Marie gets back to the compartment and his eyes are closed.

MARIE

Bop!

He's startled by her shout.

BOPPA

What the hell!

She notices his monitor says 85 and the blue dot.

MARIE

Exactly, what the hell! Mom is
texting saying you need attention.

BOPPA

All I can get.

She points to his arm.

MARIE
Medical attention!

Her phone pings again from Mia and she reads it out loud.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Why didn't you answer my call? Why
is his monitor reading 85?

He looks at his monitor and notices the blue dot.

BOPPA
Shit.

She looks at him in a panic.

MARIE
What do you mean shit?

He rubs his arm as he tries to think of an answer.

BOPPA
When it gets to 85, it alerts the
front desk so they can check me.

Marie is flipping her bottom lip with her free hand.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
When I'm out, it alerts everyone
who has that damn app.

MARIE
Shit!

BOPPA
Shit!

He motions for Marie to come sit down.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Call your mother.

MARIE
You can't be serious! She'll know
we're not at your place.

BOPPA
Call her, but don't put it on
speaker.

Marie clicks on Mom and puts the phone up to her ear.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia is pacing when her phone rings and she answers.

MIA
What is going on?

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
Hey mom, what's up?

MIA
What do you mean what's up? What's wrong with Boppa?

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Boppa motions for the phone and Marie hands it to him.

BOPPA
Hello!

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN DAY

MIA
Boppa, what's wrong? Are you OK?

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)
There's nothing wrong, I'm fine.

Mia is holding the phone with two hands and still pacing.

MIA
Your monitor says you're at 85.

BOPPA (ON SPEAKER)
Oh, this darn thing has been acting up lately. Just the other day it said 90 and Nurse Diesel came barreling into my room. I'm fine...

MIA
What did the nurse say this time?

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Boppa thinks quickly as Marie holds her hands up to her face.

BOPPA
What...Oh just chuckled and said to get it fixed.

Boppa motions for Marie to put her hand down from her face.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

MIA

Maybe I should call the front desk
and get someone to fix it for you.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

BOPPA

That's not necessary. We're about
to head to the dining room. I'll
have someone look at it then.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia picks up a wine glass and heads towards the island.

MIA

I told her to be careful. If she's
pushing you, tell her to go home.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Boppa nods and smiles at Marie.

BOPPA

Uh huh, yes. You don't have to
worry, just ignore that app. Yes,
here she is.

Boppa puts his hand over the microphone as he hands the phone
to Marie.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Just go with it.

Marie nods and takes the phone.

MARIE

Hey Mom.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia sits down at the island and pours a glass of wine.

MIA
 Good lord honey, you both scared
 the bejesus out of me.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
 Sorry.

MIA
 Please be careful. I told him to
 kick you out if you were too much.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
 OK, don't worry. Love you!

MIA
 Love you too!

As they hang up the phone, Mia gives herself a bigger pour in
 her wine glass and empties the bottle.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAY

Marie sets her phone down and looks at Boppa who is still
 rubbing his arm.

MARIE
 That was close.

BOPPA
 You said it. You were cool as a
 cucumber on the phone.

MARIE
 What?

BOPPA
 Flad, you were flad.

She feigns a smile and notices that the monitor now says 82
 and the blue light is gone.

MARIE
 Why didn't you tell me that happens
 when it gets to 85?

BOPPA
 Let's not let it get there again.

MARIE
 That didn't answer my question.

He sits back in his seat and looks at the passing scenery.

BOPPA

I didn't think it would get there.

Now she sits back and stares at him with a very serious look.

MARIE

So what sets it off?

He chortles.

BOPPA

If I knew that, I wouldn't let it
get to 85.

She shakes her head as she bites a fingernail.

MARIE

It's not worth it. We need to go
back. I don't like this.

He leans back in and reaches for Marie's hand.

BOPPA

Now listen, I wouldn't have asked
you to take me on this trip if I
didn't think I could make it. It's
my fault and from now on, there are
no secrets.

She looks back at Boppa as he taps the monitor.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

This is a life alert as well. If
it's off my arm for more than
thirty seconds without pressing
this button, it alerts the closest
medical facility that I need help.

MARIE

Yeah, well don't do that!

They stare at each other for a beat.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Are there any other secrets you
need to tell me?

He pauses for a beat as he looks up at his backpack and bites
his bottom lip.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Well?

He looks quickly down to the bottle of Makers on the table.

BOPPA

Bourbon tends to set it off. Maybe
we should get something to eat.

Marie looks into his eyes, then gives a half-hearted smile.

MARIE

OK, let's get something in you
before you go 85 on me again.

He smiles and grabs the bottle of Makers as they stand up.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Oh no you don't.

BOPPA

Calm down, just putting it away.

He opens his backpack just enough to get the bottle in, then
closes it and puts it back before they head out the door.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S KITCHEN - DAY

Mia is still sitting at the island when Rolland walks in and
heads for the fridge. He notices her glass of wine.

ROLLAND

Is it five o'clock already?

She looks up at Rolland, still contemplating the call.

MIA

Do you remember when Boppa went to
stay with Aunt Syd?

He's takes a glass and gets a drink of water from the fridge.

ROLLAND

Yeah, what about it?

MIA

Remember when his monitor spiked?

He finishes his water and puts the glass in the sink.

ROLLAND

Are you going somewhere with this?

She walks over to Rolland with her phone and her wine.

MIA

He said when the app alerts us,
it's because he's away from his
apartment.

ROLLAND

Actually, it's when he's away from
the building. Why are you asking?

Mia opens her phone and shows Rolland that the app went off.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

Why would the app go off?

MIA

I don't know. Something's up.

Rolland takes the water glass out of the sink and goes to
pour himself some wine from the now empty bottle.

ROLLAND

What'd Marie do now?

There is obviously no wine in the bottle as he holds it
straight up and down and shakes it.

MIA

I knew this wasn't a good idea.

He takes Mia's glass and takes a big swig.

MIA (CONT'D)

Although, Boppa did say his monitor
had been acting up.

ROLLAND

How so?

MIA

He said they just told him to get
it fixed.

ROLLAND

The facility maintains the monitor.

They look at each other, then Mia looks towards the door.

MIA

Maybe we should just head over
there and check on them.

She starts walking towards the door.

ROLLAND
Why don't we just call?

MIA
If his monitor is working and she pushed him too far, we need to get her out of there.

ROLLAND
OK, but I'm not buying dinner for four people.

Mia slaps Rolland on the arm as they walk out the door.

INT. BULLET TRAIN DINING CAR - DAY

Boppa sits at a table and stares out the window as Marie approaches him with some snack items.

MARIE
Where exactly are we?

BOPPA
Well, we've gone through a couple tunnels, so I'd say we're in the middle of West Virginia.

With a smile on her face, she stares out the window with him.

MARIE
It's beautiful.

He looks at her, then back out the window and starts to sing.

BOPPA
Almost heaven, West Virginia. Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River.

Another OLDER PASSENGER (80) next to them joins in.

BOPPA / OLDER PASSENGER (CONT'D)
Life is old there, older than the trees; Younger than the mountains, growin' like a breeze...

A few more people join in for the chorus.

BOPPA / ALL (CONT'D)
Country roads, take me home, to the place where I belong, West Virginia, mountain mama. Take me home, country roads.

The passengers give themselves a light round of applause.

MARIE

Did you just make that up?

Boppa does a double take.

BOPPA

Yeah, we all just made that up.
That was John Denver. Big hit in
the seventies.

Marie shrugs her shoulders.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Never liked him, but that song is
so damn catchy.

He looks at the food and begins to piece through it.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

This is what you found to eat?

MARIE

There wasn't much to choose from.

He picks a bag of chips as she takes beef jerky.

BOPPA

We used to make this trip a lot.

MARIE

Who?

BOPPA

Nana and I, of course.

She reaches over and takes the bag of chips he was having
trouble opening, opens them for him and hands them back.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I'd say we're getting close to
Charleston. The kids used to hate
this trip when they were little.

She takes an electronic pad and begins to write.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Took us almost 12 hours to get to
Hilton Head. We'd load the van up
at four in the morning and they'd
all just go back to sleep.

She takes notes as she takes another big bite of her jerky.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
I don't miss those days at all.

Marie looks up at him.

MARIE
You love vacation.

BOPPA
Sorry, I phrased that wrong. I
don't miss that long ass drive.

Seeing Marie enjoy her jerky, he picks up one and just hands
it over to her to open.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
The drive sucked, but that week on
the island made it worth while.

She hands him the jerky and he takes a bite.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
You wouldn't get snap into a Slim
Jim, would you.

She shakes her head no.

MARIE
Why Hilton Head?

He looks over the top of his glasses at her.

BOPPA
Why?

MARIE
Yeah. You said last year that it
was your sixty fifth straight year.
Why there, why not other places?

BOPPA
I've been asked that a million
times. Nana loves...

He stops himself and resets.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Nana loved the beach. I could take
it or leave it, but Nana loved it.

He looks at Marie, takes another bite and motions to her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Don't you like it when we're all
there together?

MARIE

Of course, I love it!

BOPPA

That's why! Vacation isn't supposed
to be a discovery, it's a time to
relax. Why worry about where to go
and what to do when there's a place
you know what to expect.

She continues to scribble.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

What are you writing?

MARIE

If you remember, the whole purpose
of this trip is for me to get
information to write my thesis.

He takes another bite and brushes the crumbs from his beard.

BOPPA

Honestly, had almost forgot that.

He grins then looks out the window and points.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

The golden dome, that's Charleston.

She sees the dome from the capital building in the distance.

MARIE

Wow! Can't believe we're this far
already.

BOPPA

We'd still be in North Carolina if
we were driving.

She raises her eyebrows in response. She tries checking for
his monitor, but can't see it the way he is sitting.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

What?

MARIE

Just wanted to check your monitor.

Boppa turns his arm and the monitor shows 79.

BOPPA

There see! It was the booze.

Marie grins and they both go back to eating their snacks.

EXT. BOPPA'S BUILDING - DAY

Mia and Rolland pull into the parking lot at Lake Meadows. They get out of their EDV and Mia begins a very brisk walk towards the front door as Rolland tries to keep up.

INT. BOPPA'S BUILDING NURSES STATION - DAY

Nurse Deitz is at the front desk as Mia comes darting towards the station with Rolland trying to catch up.

NURSE DEITZ

Welcome to Lake Meadows retirement community, how can I help you?

MIA

Hi, I'm Mia Derring, Granddaughter of Anthony Price.

NURSE DEITZ

Oh, hello Mrs. Derring. Is everything OK with Mr. Price? We noticed his monitor went off for a few minutes, then reset.

Mia quickly looks at Rolland, then back to Nurse Deitz.

MIA

What do you mean? Isn't he here?

Nurse Deitz now goes from a smile to a straight face.

NURSE DEITZ

Well no mam, he checked out.

MIA

Checked out?!!!

NURSE DEITZ

Yes mam, a 24 hour pass.

MIA

Holy shit, how... why would you let him do that? I'm the only one who can sign him out.

Nurse Deitz pulls up the hologram document they signed.

NURSE DEITZ
Is Marie your daughter?

MIA
Yes.

NURSE DEITZ
She's a registered adult relative
and has those privileges. Mr. Price
made very sure that I knew that.

Mia and Rolland look at each other stunned.

ROLLAND
Do you know where they went?

NURSE DEITZ
I'm afraid not. All Mr. Price said
was they were doing family things.

MIA
How far will his monitor read?

NURSE DEITZ
As long as he's got a signal,
anywhere. They left here about an
hour ago, so they can't be far.

Mia motions to Rolland with her head towards the door.

MIA
OK, thank you. We'll find them.

As they start to walk away, Mia turns back to Nurse Deitz.

MIA (CONT'D)
By the way, how long has his
monitor been acting up?

NURSE DEITZ
Excuse me?

MIA
Yes, he said it had been acting up
and was told it needed fixed.

NURSE DEITZ
I'm sorry mam, but his monitor was
fine when they left.

Mia clenches her teeth, which Rolland sees and backs away.

MIA
Really! Let's go.

Rolland follows behind Mia as they head out the door.

EXT. BOPPA'S BUILDING - DAY

Mia and Rolland almost run to their EDV.

MIA

I swear to God, if she has put him
in any type of danger, she'll wish
she had never asked to do this.

ROLLAND

But dear, she...

MIA

Just get in and let's go.

ROLLAND

Where?

MIA

Her apartment. Where else would
they have gone?

Rolland rolls his eyes and gets into the EDV just before it
backs up and leaves the lot.

INT. BULLET TRAIN DINING CAR - DAY

Boppa has torn open the potato chip bag and is licking the
salt off of the inside as Marie writes on her pad.

MARIE

You feeling better?

He puts the bag down and brushes himself off.

BOPPA

Better than nothing. We should be
in Ohio in a few minutes.

MARIE

God this is fast.

BOPPA

I assume the deer learned quick to
stay off the tracks.

He smashes his right fist into his left hand. Marie scrunches
her nose and shakes her head.

MARIE
That's a gross thought.

BOPPA
You want gross?

He holds out his index finger.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Pull my finger.

Marie shakes her head even faster.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
On second thought, better not. I
didn't bring a change of skivvies.

Marie bursts out laughing as does Boppa. He looks at his
phone to check the time and it says 5:30.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
It'll take us about twenty five to
thirty minutes to get a car...

MARIE
EDV.

BOPPA
Whatever...and get to Lancaster.
We can get a bite to eat near the
hotel.

Marie puts her pad down and stretches in her seat. After a
long stretch she looks around then back at Boppa.

MARIE
How long have you planned this?

He looks out the corner of his eye at her.

BOPPA
I told you, yesterday right after
you called.

MARIE
Come on, this trip didn't just pop
in your head, you've been planning
this for a while haven't you?

Boppa looks out the window as the train crosses the bridge
over the Ohio River.

BOPPA

Nana and I were planning on coming back to see some old friends. We were all ready to go when she...

Boppa stares off into the distance.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

...well, when she had her episode.

He taps his finger on the table.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

She told me to go by myself, that there was no reason why I couldn't go see everyone while she rested.

He reaches for a napkin and puts it in his hand away from Marie and wipes his eye. Marie starts to tear up as well.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

She was always saying things like that. Never wanted to be in anybody's way or to make anyone unhappy. Then she just...

He bows his head.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

...faded away that night.

Marie wipes her eyes as Boppa turns back towards her.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

That's how we wanted to go, just fade away. Always teased her that she would have plenty of years after I was gone to find another sugar daddy, yet, here I am.

He leans in towards the table and puts his napkin down.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Since I've been cooped up, I've been planning a trip just like this. I had no idea it would be with you though!

Marie chuckles through her tears then blows her nose into the napkin. She reaches for his hand, which he swats away.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

You just blew your nose! What's wrong with you?

Marie giggles.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S EDV - DUSK

Rolland stares at Mia who is shaking mad as she grips the controls for the EDV.

MIA

I knew this wasn't a good idea.
You know your daughter, she'll just
keep going and going and going.

ROLLAND

Our daughter.

She shoots him a look then looks back out the windshield.

MIA

Yes well, *our* daughter had better
have a good explanation for this.

He sits back in his seat and relaxes a bit.

ROLLAND

Look, when we get to her apartment,
don't make a big deal over this.

She shoots him another look, but he continues.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

She shouldn't have checked him out,
but maybe they just needed space.

MIA

But why sign him out for 24 hours?

ROLLAND

Who knows, maybe he just wanted to
get out and live a little.

Mia's posture slowly relaxes and her death grip on the controls eases up a bit.

MIA

Why wouldn't she just say that in
the first place?

ROLLAND

I would imagine that she knows you
and thought you would blow it out
of proportion.

Mia starts to retort, then backs down.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

See.

MIA

All right, no finger pointing.

ROLLAND

Or screaming.

MIA

I wouldn't scream.

ROLLAND

Uh huh.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DUSK

Marie and Boppa have all their stuff together, looking out the window when there is an announcement.

CONDUCTOR (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, we'll be arriving in Columbus in five minutes. Five minutes to arrival.

Boppa mimics the announcement.

BOPPA

Five minutes to get your shit together. Just five minutes.

She shakes her head as she puts her pad away.

MARIE

What's Lancaster like?

BOPPA

Haven't you been there?

MARIE

Nope. Never been to Ohio.

He scratches his head in wonder.

BOPPA

Nana and I thought it was the perfect place to raise our kids... then we moved to North Carolina and it was like going from black and white to technicolor!

MARIE

Paints a wonderful picture of your
hometown there Bop.

He looks out the window and points.

BOPPA

There it goes now.

In the distance you can see the city and Mount Pleasant.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

See that? That's Mount Pleasant.

MARIE

Not much of a mountain.

BOPPA

It's a two hundred and fifty foot
high piece of glacier poop.

Marie chuckles.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Used to play on that rock all the
time.

MARIE

We should see it while we're here.

BOPPA

Sure.

He smiles.

EXT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Mia and Rolland pull into Marie's complex and park their EDV.
Mia waits for Rolland, then they walk to and in the door.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Hennesy dances to music in her earbuds.

(SFX: Knocking)

She doesn't hear it and keeps dancing.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DUSK

Mia and Rolland stand in front of the door waiting, then look at each other. Mia knocks on the door again.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Hennessy stops, removes one of the buds and turns.

(SFX: Knocking)

MIA (O.C.)

Marie? Come on honey, it's Mom and Dad.

Hennessy raises her hand to her mouth.

HENNESSY

Damn.

She quickly grabs her phone from her back pocket and texts Marie. The display reads "UR mom & dad are at our door!"

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DUSK

Mia looks at Rolland with a concerned look.

ROLLAND

Maybe they went to eat.

INT. BULLET TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DUSK

As the train pulls into the station, Marie's phone pings with the message from Hennessy.

MARIE

Oh fuck!

BOPPA

Excuse me?!

MARIE

Hennessy just texted Mom and Dad are at our apartment.

BOPPA

That's not flad all right.

Marie flips her bottom lip again in panic.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Tell her to keep quiet.

Marie's fingers bang out the message.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Hennessy, slowly tip-toeing, picks up a remote when her phone pings. She grabs it quickly while clenching her teeth.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DUSK

MIA
Did you hear something?

ROLLAND
What?

MIA
I don't know, that's why I asked.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Hennessy reads the note from Marie. The display reads "Keep quiet." She clicks the remote and the door changes into a screen to show the hallway and Mia and Rolland walking away.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DUSK

As they walk away, Mia stops.

ROLLAND
Where're we going?

MIA
What's that barbecue place Boppa likes to go to?

Rolland thinks for a beat.

ROLLAND
Um, it's just around the corner.

MIA
Nick's. That's it.

Mia looks back to the door.

ROLLAND

If you don't want to call, we'll
walk over and at least have a meal
while you chew them out.

Mia looks back at Rolland then back to the door.

INT. MARIE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Hennessy, still looking at the screen on the door, sees Mia
look, then turn and they leave. She takes a deep breath and
holds her phone back up to type.

HENNESSY

That was too close.

EXT. BULLET TRAIN STATION - DUSK

Boppa and Marie walk towards the exit when her phone pings.

BOPPA

What'd she say?

She sighs with relief.

MARIE

They knocked a couple of times then
just left. Said something about
Nick. Who's Nick?

BOPPA

Nick's. They're trying to find us.

Marie looks up at Boppa as they walk through the station
towards the rental EDV's.

MARIE

What should I tell Hennessy?

BOPPA

Leave for the evening or just stay
in and stay quiet.

MARIE

I'm already in enough trouble.
Maybe we should tell Mom and Dad
what we're doing.

His eyes shift, then he puts his arm on her shoulder.

BOPPA

No, I'll text your mother that I asked you to check me out and that you and I are out on a drive.

Marie shakes her head back and forth.

MARIE

I don't know.

BOPPA

I'll take all the blame. I kidnapped you!

A person walking by hears him and gives them a funny look.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Just kidding.

Marie looks around then up at Boppa.

MARIE

You'll text her?

BOPPA

Yep.

MARIE

Right now?

BOPPA

Sure, but only because I love you.

He smiles, takes his phone out and hands it to her.

MARIE

You said you were going to.

BOPPA

If you want to wait 15 minutes while I try to type with these sausage fingers.

She rolls her eyes.

MARIE

Just tell me what to type.

He looks up and around then wiggles his finger.

BOPPA

OK, type this. I hear that you found out I asked Marie to take me for a ride today.

(MORE)

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Just wanted to get out and stretch
my legs. Don't worry about us.
How's that sound?

Marie reads what she just typed and tilts her head to the
side.

MARIE

That's a start, but I guarantee my
mother won't let it go at that.

BOPPA

I've been dealing with your mother
her entire life. Just hit send.

MARIE

OK, there's no turning back now.

With that, she hits send on Boppa's phone, then takes her
phone and types a quick note to Hennessy.

BOPPA

Who are you texting?

MARIE

Hennessy, to tell her to just get
out of there.

BOPPA

Good thinking.

EXT. CAMPUS STREET - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland walk towards an area of bars and restaurants.

MIA

Did you see Marie's car in the
parking lot?

ROLLAND

EDV.

MIA

Whatever.

Mia's phone pings and she sees it's from Boppa.

MIA (CONT'D)

It's Boppa!

ROLLAND

What's he say?

MIA

I hear that you found out I asked Marie to take me for a ride today. Just wanted to get out and stretch my legs. Don't worry about us.

ROLLAND

A drive?

MIA

That's what he said.

She begins to type a response as he moves in around her to look over her shoulder. She talks as she types.

MIA (CONT'D)

We've been worried sick!

Rolland rolls his eyes and shakes his head.

INT. EDV RENTAL FACILITY - NIGHT

Marie, still holding Boppa's phone, looks at it when it pings and walks over to where he's standing at the counter.

MARIE

Mom pinged back.

He looks over his shoulder at Marie.

BOPPA

Yeah, what'd she say?

MARIE

That they're worried sick.

BOPPA

I doubt that.

He turns towards the agent as he grabs the fob for the EDV.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Thanks!

As they start to walk away, he motions to her to type.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Tell her that we had no reason to tell her and that she and your dad should just go on home.

MARIE

You serious?

BOPPA

Doctor it up if you want, but that should be the point.

She starts to type as they start walking towards the exit.

EXT. CAMPUS STREET - NIGHT

Mia's phone pings as they walk and she pulls up the text.

ROLLAND

What's he saying now?

MIA

He said, "We didn't think it was a big deal. You two should go on home and not worry about us."

They look at each other, then back down at her phone.

ROLLAND

What do you think?

Mia exhales deeply.

MIA

Maybe we should. I don't know why I get so worked up.

Rolland puts his arm around her.

ROLLAND

That's just the way you're wired.

She looks at him with a blank stare.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

I meant that in a good way.

He smiles coyly then looks up at Nick's.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

Let's grab something to eat.

MIA

And drink.

ROLLAND

Of course.

Mia types a message back. The display reads: "You win, we'll leave you two to work on Marie's project."

INT. RENTAL EDV NIGHT

Marie sits in the drivers seat as Boppa fights with his seat-belt when his phone pings.

MARIE
Hey, they're giving up!

She smiles and reaches over to click his seat-belt for him.

BOPPA
Giving up?

MARIE
Yep, said, you win, we'll leave you two to work on Marie's project.

He smiles and pats her on the shoulder.

BOPPA
See, told you we'd be OK.

She sees his monitor says 75, smiles and grabs the controls.

MARIE
Where're we going?

BOPPA
To Lancaster, of course.

MARIE
No, I meant where exactly? Gotta punch in the address.

Boppa shakes his head.

BOPPA
Dear lord.

INT. NICK'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland sit at a table, she with a big glass of wine and he with a beer as they look at menus.

ROLLAND
When were we here last?

MIA
When we dropped Marie off at school last year.

ROLLAND

Right. Nana and Boppa came along and Nana, heh heh, Nana wouldn't leave Marie's apartment until she had cleaned every last inch of that place. She loved Marie so much.

He realizes what he said. Mia already has tears in her eyes.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)

I'm sorry honey, I forgot.

Mia takes a tissue and wipes her eye and waves with her hand.

MIA

No, no, I've to get past this.
It's been almost six months now.

Rolland reaches down and holds her hand.

MIA (CONT'D)

We were just so close, it's hard.

The WAITRESS (20, female College student) comes over to take their order.

WAITRESS

Have you both decided?

They both look up to her as Mia is wiping away the tears.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

I'll give you another minute.

She feigns a smile and walks away.

INT. RENTAL EDV - NIGHT

Boppa stares out the windshield and every time he sees a landmark, he turns and looks at it until it's out of site. Marie is not actually driving and is just looking at him.

BOPPA

That really bothers me that you aren't driving.

MARIE

It's been proven that there are less accidents when the EDV's are in control.

BOPPA

Super. Isaac Asimov will be glad to hear that.

Marie shakes her head and sighs.

MARIE

You forget that I'm a literature major, so your sarcasm is noted.

Boppa smiles and rubs her knee, then points.

BOPPA

We're here!

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

They pass a sign that says: Welcome to Lancaster, Ohio, birthplace of William T. Sherman.

INT. RENTAL EDV - NIGHT

BOPPA

Can't believe that there's never been anyone more important from Lancaster than old Cump.

MARIE

What'd he do.

BOPPA

He fought in a little skirmish called the Civil War, or don't you writers dig history.

MARIE

Writing is history.

He nods.

BOPPA

I'll give you that.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Boppa and Marie's EDV continues down the road.

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

The EDV turns into the parking lot of the hotel and parks. They grab their backpacks and head towards the front door.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

As they walk towards the front desk, Marie hangs back while Boppa talks to the DESK ATTENDANT (45, average female).

DESK ATTENDANT
Welcome to the Hilton Inn.

BOPPA
Checking in; the name's Price.

DESK ATTENDANT
I just need you to scan please.

Boppa rolls his eyes and pulls his sleeve up to scan. The Desk Attendant pulls up a computer hologram.

DESK ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
All right Mr. Price, thank you for being a lifetime diamond member.

BOPPA
25 years of business travel!

DESK ATTENDANT
I see you booked a king single.

She looks over his shoulder and looks at Marie.

DESK ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
Will it just be you tonight?

BOPPA
No, there's two of us.

Boppa looks at the Desk Attendant and she has an eye raised and her lips pursed, when he realizes what she means.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
Oh, Oh! No, that's my Great Granddaughter. We'll need two doubles.

The Desk Attendant looks at Marie, then at him and gives a slight smile.

DESK ATTENDANT
Of course Mr. Price.

He turns to Marie and gives a "yipes" face, to which she chuckles. The Desk Attendant takes a small object, and holds it close to the front of Boppa's phone. There is a beep and she motions the way to their room.

DESK ATTENDANT (CONT'D)
Second door down that hall.

He walks to Marie, taps his phone to hers to give her key access, noted by a ping and they head towards their room.

BOPPA
Well, within the last twenty minutes, someone thinks I kidnapped you and she thinks you're a hooker.

MARIE
Really winning them over there Bop.

They smile as they walk into the hallway.

INT. NICK'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The waitress leaves a small electronic device on the table, smiles and walks off. Rolland puts his phone against the device, it glows yellow, there's a ping and it changes green.

Mia looks at her phone and the last text from Boppa.

MIA
How'd they know we were here?

ROLLAND
Who?

Mia hands her phone to Rolland with the last text from Boppa.

MIA
He said, You two should go on home.
How did he know we were here?

Rolland shakes his head and hands the phone back.

ROLLAND
You're reading too much into it.

Mia looks at the text one final time, then closes it.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)
You ready?

MIA
Yep. Feel like we wasted our time.

As they get up and walk out, Rolland waves to the waitress.

ROLLAND

It's not a waste if we're together.

Mia puts her arm around Rolland and he does the same with her as they open the door and exit.

EXT. NICK'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

They walk out the door and turn and walk down the sidewalk as other patrons and college kids walk by.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Marie and Boppa get set up in the room.

MARIE

Gonna have to take the Noon bullet
if we're going to get back in
enough time tomorrow.

He looks over his shoulder at Marie.

BOPPA

We could take the two pm train back
and still make it.

She shakes her head no.

MARIE

No, I'm going to be in enough
trouble when everyone finds out
what we did, I don't need to get
you back late on top of that.

He shrugs his shoulders as he's laying out his night clothes on his bed, being careful not to open his backpack too wide.

MARIE (CONT'D)

So, where do you want to go?

He ponders for a beat.

BOPPA

You'll see.

He winks at her and she shakes her head.

MARIE

You mind if I shower and freshen up
before we eat? I feel like a grit.

He chuckles and waves his arm in front of his face.

BOPPA

Is that you? Sure, you take your time.

As she digs through her bag, she starts to panic. She looks in her handbag, then throws it on the bed.

MARIE

Dammit!

BOPPA

What's wrong?

MARIE

Forgot my charging pad!

BOPPA

Why do you need a pad? Doesn't your phone charge automatically?

MARIE

Yes, but I forgot to flip the settings... I'm at two percent.

They both look around and don't see anything.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Do you have a charger Bop?

BOPPA

Nope. Don't think I own one.

She ponders for a beat.

MARIE

Wait, The EDV has a charge pad.

She starts to walk towards the door when he stops her.

BOPPA

Why don't you get your shower and I'll put your phone on the charger.

MARIE

Are you sure?

BOPPA

Beats just standing here.

She hands her phone to him and the fob for the EDV.

MARIE

The charge pad is in the middle console. Be careful.

He turns to her with an incredulous look.

BOPPA

Seriously?

She smiles and grabs her things and heads into the bathroom as he opens the door and leaves.

EXT. CAMPUS STREET - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland walk hand in hand down the street and turn a corner and come face to face with Hennessy.

MIA

Hennessy! Hey!

Hennessy is startled by them but tries to recover quickly.

HENNESSY

Oh... hey! What're you doing here?

MIA

Well, long story short, we came over here looking for Marie and her Great Grandpa, but ended up just eating dinner over at Nick's.

HENNESSY

Really, just like that?

MIA

Well, it wasn't just like that. We went to your place after we were at his place trying to find them.

Hennessy seems somewhat nervous.

HENNESSY

And did you?

Mia and Rolland look at each other and chuckle which makes Hennessy chuckle nervously.

MIA

No, they texted us and filled us in on what they were doing.

Hennessy seems surprised.

HENNESSY

And you were OK with that?

MIA

Sure, why not?

Hennessy shakes her head and speaks with relief.

HENNESSY

I gotta tell you that when she told me what they were going to do, I thought it was kinda radical.

Mia and Rolland just stare at her.

ROLLAND

Driving around town is radical?

Hennessy goes expressionless.

MIA

Did they drive somewhere else?

Hennessy tries to walk past them, but they stop her.

MIA (CONT'D)

Hennessy, what's going on?

Hennessy's eyes shift back and forth looking at both of them, then she closes her eyes.

EXT. NICK'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

(A loud scream of Mia yelling in the distance.)

MIA (O.C.)

What!!!

It startles the patrons walking by Nick's restaurant as birds fly out of the trees.

EXT. CAMPUS STREET - NIGHT

Mia runs ahead of Rolland back to their EDV at the apartment complex. As she runs, Mia tries to call Marie's phone.

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Boppa walks out the main door when Marie's phone starts ringing. He pulls it close and sees that it says "Mom".

BOPPA

What the hell does she want now?

He ponders a beat then clicks the Decline button.

EXT. MARIE'S APARTMENT PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Mia is a half a block ahead of Rolland.

MIA

She flipped me to voicemail again!

Mia stops in her tracks and types a text. The display reads:
"Call me now! I know you're in Ohio!"

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

As Boppa opens the door to the EDV and goes to place Marie's phone on the charge pad, her phone pings. It's from Hennessy. The display reads: "SRY! PLS 4GIV ME!"

BOPPA

I'll never understand kids and their acronyms.

It pings again and this time the text message is from Mia. Boppa holds it up and sees what it says before it goes dark. The display reads: "Call me now! I know you're in Ohio!"

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Oh shit!

He looks around and ponders for a beat. He places her phone on the charger, gets out and heads back to the hotel.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Boppa opens the door slowly and peeks to see if the bathroom door is still shut. He can hear Marie in the shower and moves towards her bed and places the EDV fob on the nightstand, then turns and walks back towards the door.

He throws his clothes in his backpack, then scribbles a note and sticks it in his pocket. He stops momentarily outside the bathroom door and lays his hand on it softly.

BOPPA

Please forgive me Peanut.

He rubs the door softly then leaves the room.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S EDV - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland sit in the EDV staring at her phone.

ROLLAND
Maybe they're eating.

Mia glances at Rolland with a look that could kill.

MIA
She's not answering on purpose. She knows we know.

ROLLAND
How?

MIA
Hennessy you fool. I'm sure she texted her as soon as we took off?!

Beat.

MIA (CONT'D)
And I texted too.

ROLLAND
Yeah, that would do it.

They stare at the phone for a few more beats.

ROLLAND (CONT'D)
We just can't sit here.

She turns to him and starts to cry hysterically.

MIA
Well what the hell should we do then?! Our daughter took my ninety year old Grandfather, who has a heart condition, to Ohio without telling us. I just lost Nana, I don't want to lose him too!

She holds her hands up to her face as Rolland puts his arm around her and tries to soothe her.

ROLLAND
That's the worst case scenario. I'm sure she's taking care of him.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Marie exits the bathroom combing her wet hair.

MARIE

Hey Bop, do you; Bop?

She looks and sees he isn't in the room. She opens the door and looks both ways in the hallway, then reenters the room.

She notices the EDV fob on the nightstand and picks it up. As she slips on her shoes, she glances at Boppa's bed and sees that everything is gone. She opens the dresser and quickly looks in the closet.

MARIE (CONT'D)

What're you doing Bop?

She frantically grabs her purse and quickly leaves the room.

INT. UBLY EDV - NIGHT

Boppa sits in the back of a ride-share EDV. The DRIVER (25, male) drives as Boppa holds his backpack.

DRIVER

From out of town?

BOPPA

Born and raised here, but haven't lived here for fifty years.

The driver looks at Boppa through his rear view mirror, then looks at his guidance system.

DRIVER

Goin' to the Fairview I see.

BOPPA

Yep, gotta date.

The driver smiles and shakes his head.

DRIVER

And you couldn't find anywhere else better than the 'view?

Boppa chuckles and pats his backpack.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Marie runs to the front door, stops and looks to the desk.

MARIE

Have you seen my Great Grandpa?

DESK ATTENDANT

He went outside a few minutes ago.

MARIE

Did he come back in?

DESK ATTENDANT

You know, I don't recall.

Marie turns for the door and leaves.

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Marie runs to the rental EDV and clicks it open. She looks around for a beat and sits down to get her phone.

She notes the battery has charged a bit, then sees that she has two texts. She opens the one from Hennessy. The display reads: "SRY! PLS 4GIV ME!"

MARIE

What?

She then sees the other text is from her mother. She clicks on it. The display reads: "Call me now! I know you're in Ohio!"

MARIE (CONT'D)

Oh shit!

She stares at her phone for a second then bites her bottom lip and starts to cry. She looks around as the tears flow, then sees the note Boppa scribbled. It reads: "We've been had. Don't want you in any more trouble, so I have to finish this journey on my own. Please forgive me."

Marie has her hand to her mouth as the tears continue to stream down her face. She opens her phone and clicks Boppa.

INT. FAIRVIEW BAR - NIGHT

Boppa is sitting at a small table in the tiny bar. When his phone rings, he sees it's from Marie and clicks ignore.

He sets his phone down. Next to him on the table is an urn. On one side it says Hope and the other Nana. There's a glass of wine next to the urn and he holds an Old Fashioned.

BOPPA

Here's to you my dear!

He clinks the glass of wine and takes a drink. His monitor shows 83.

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Marie is out of the EDV and types a message to Boppa. The display reads: "Where are you?"

At the same time, her phone rings and she sees that it's from her Dad. She hesitates, then answers.

MARIE

Dad?

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S EDV - NIGHT

Mia, wiping away tears, perks up when she hears Marie.

ROLLAND

Marie, where...

MIA

How's Boppa? Are you both all right?

There's a long pause.

MIA (CONT'D)

Are you still there?

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

I don't know.

MIA

What don't you know?

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Marie is crying as she leans against the EDV.

MARIE

I don't know where he is. Mom, I'm scared.

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S EDV - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland's faces both are agape as they hear Marie crying. Mia regains her composure and takes control.

MIA
First, where are you?

MARIE (SOBBING ON SPEAKER)
Hilton..Inn..in Lancaster.

MIA
OK. Alright. When was the last time
you saw him?

MARIE (SOBBING ON SPEAKER)
I had to... I had to take a shower
and...and he was going to put my
phone on a charger for me.

Mia motions for Rolland to write what Marie is saying down.

MIA
How long ago was that?

MARIE (SOBBING ON SPEAKER)
Uh, um, fifteen, uh twenty minutes.

MIA
OK honey calm down, he couldn't be
that far. Did you try and call him?

EXT. HOTEL PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Marie's face is all red with tears rolling down her cheeks.

MARIE
Of course I... I tried to call him.

MIA (ON SPEAKER)
OK, OK. Is there a bar close by?

Marie looks perplexed.

MARIE
What? No, why?

INT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S EDV - NIGHT

MIA
That's the only place he'd walk to.

Mia motions to Rolland to start up the EDV.

MIA (CONT'D)

We're going to the bullet station
and we'll be there as soon as the
next train leaves.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

What about Boppa?

MIA

We'll call the local police. You
stay put. Don't leave that hotel,
you've done enough already.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

Mom?

MIA

Yes.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)

I'm sorry.

Mia and Rolland look to each other, then drive away.

EXT. FAIRVIEW BAR - NIGHT

Boppa walks out of the bar and with the backpack over his
shoulder, turns and walks down the street as Mount Pleasant
is lit up by light in front of him.

He looks over at the fairgrounds and reminisces.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. FAIRGROUNDS DURING FAIR TIME - DAY

Boppa(50) and Nana(50) are holding hands as they stroll
through the county fair. They stop and get a cup of french
fries, douse them in vinegar, and dig in. They start walking,
talking and laughing as they move through the crowd.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. LANCASTER CITY STREET - NIGHT

Boppa smiles as he continues to walk. His monitor reads 84.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Marie sits on her bed, when she looks over and sees her Cube. She takes it and sits down at a table. She runs her hand over the top then presses REPLAY. A hologram appears and replays the last 30 second scene recorded.

[The Hologram is just Boppa]

BOPPA

Wooo, that Makers went to my head a little quicker than usual. Probably should have eaten something today.

MARIE (O.C.)

You haven't eaten?

BOPPA

I'm alright. Whadaya say we take a TV time out and just relax.

The Cube jiggles a little as Marie fiddles with the buttons.

MARIE (O.C.)

Do you need a nap?

BOPPA

I'll just rest my eyes.

MARIE (O.C.)

I'm going to hit the bathroom real quick. Will you be OK without me.

He looks up and to his left and nods.

BOPPA

Pretty sure I can make it during your piddle break.

You hear the compartment door open.

MARIE (O.C.)

I'll be right back.

You hear the door close and Boppa reaches for his left arm and rubs it just above the monitor.

BOPPA

Damn thing, you're giving me away.

He looks at the monitor and it says 83. He reaches into his pants pocket and pulls out a box of Tic-Tacs, and shakes them.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Now I wish I would've brought those
goddamn pills.

He pops a couple Tic-Tac's in his mouth, then puts them back
in his pocket. He leans against the corner of the bench and
closes his eyes. Five seconds later, the scene ends.

Marie has her right hand to her mouth.

MARIE

He doesn't have his meds!

Marie stands up and walks to the window and looks out to the
parking lot.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Boppa, where are you?

As she stares out the window, she hears her mother's voice in
her head.

MIA (V.O.)

You stay put. Don't leave that
hotel, you've done enough already.

She turns and looks at the Cube sitting on the table, then
hears Boppa's voice in her head.

BOPPA (V.O.)

Worrying about something doesn't
solve it, it only makes it worse.
Have confidence in yourself and
what you do. If you do that, you
can accomplish anything.

She heads back to the Cube and hits replay again, then pauses
it almost immediately and notices his monitor. She stares at
it for a beat or two.

MARIE

His monitor would have to have a
tracking device.

She grabs her phone and calls her mother. It rings just once.

MIA (ON SPEAKER)

Did he come back?!

MARIE

No, but what is the app that
alerted you about Boppa, it's HM
something?

MIA (ON SPEAKER)
Hold on, let me open it. Oh my God!

MARIE
Mom, what is it?

INT. BULLET TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

Mia and Rolland stare at Mia's phone. She has her hand up to her mouth.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
Mom?

MIA
His monitor is showing 86 right now. Oh God, he's in trouble.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
Mom, what's the app? I might be able to track him.

Mia is now crying again when Rolland takes the phone.

ROLLAND
Honey, it's HM2101.

MARIE (ON SPEAKER)
OK, hold on.

Rolland turns to Mia and takes her hand.

ROLLAND
Keep it together honey, she might be able to find him.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Marie finds the app and downloads it.

MARIE
Mom, is it your usual user name and password for that app?

There's a long pause.

MIA (ON SPEAKER)
I don't remember.

Marie's posture slumps.

MARIE

Mom, you use the same user name and password for everything.

MIA (ON SPEAKER)

It's my regular user name.

Marie types. [m-i-a-1-2-3]

MARIE

What's the password?

Beat

MARIE (CONT'D)

Mom? I can't find Boppa if...

MIA (ON SPEAKER)

My God, that's it. It's Boppa1964.
The B is capital.

Marie clicks in the password and watches as the the app glows for a moment. The monitor lights up blue and shows the number 88 in the center.

MARIE

(under her breath)

Oh no!

Marie puts her hand to her mouth.

MARIE (CONT'D)

OK mom, I got it. Let me work on this and I'll call you back.

Marie hangs up and starts to work on the app.

EXT. RISING PARK - NIGHT

Boppa sits on a bench in Rising Park at the base of Mount Pleasant, with his backpack next to him. He looks up at the full moon and the stars and closes his eyes.

BEGIN DREAM SEQUENCE:

EXT. WHITE SANDY BEACH - DAY

Walking along a beautiful sunny beach, Nana(50) smiles and looks up intently.

BOPPA 50 (O.C.)

God I miss you.

NANA 50

I miss you too.

His hand reaches over and takes hold of hers.

BOPPA 50 (O.C.)

It wasn't supposed to happen this way you know.

She smiles and rubs his hand.

BOPPA 50 (O.C.) (CONT'D)

I was supposed to go first, not you.

NANA 50

I told you I would drag you back if you did.

He laughs, then kisses her hand.

BOPPA 50 (O.C.)

I'm trying to drag you back, but it's not working.

NANA 50

Don't worry, we'll be together soon. Don't be afraid.

END DREAM SEQUENCE.

The last line echos and repeats as he opens his eyes.

BOPPA

I'm not afraid.

He stands up then grabs his chest as a pain shoots through him. He glances at his monitor which says 90, picks up the backpack and starts to walk towards the mountain trail.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Marie, paces as she works on the app.

ON THE SCREEN

She presses Settings. The options from there are Account, Users, Notifications and Geo-Services. She presses Geo-Services. There is a slight pause, then a red dot on a map with the number 91 in the corner.

ON MARIE

MARIE

Please let this work.

ON THE SCREEN

She presses the red dot and it offers directions.

ON MARIE

She smiles, turns and grabs her purse and the EDV fob and runs towards the door.

EXT. MOUNT PLEASANT - NIGHT

Boppa is walking up the main trail to the mountain top. He momentarily loses his balance and falls against a tree at the side of the path. His left arm brushes against the tree and his monitor, which was red and showed 93, falls off of his arm and comes to rest about six feet off the path.

The monitor starts blinking. He looks at it, then looks up the trail and decides to continue without the monitor.

BOPPA

It's all or nothing now, isn't it.

He strains as he leans forward and continues the steep climb.

The monitor laying on the ground, continues to blink, then begins to beep as well.

INT. BULLET TRAIN PASSENGER CAR - NIGHT

Mia looks at her phone horrified as Rolland looks over her shoulder at the blinking red app.

MIA

Oh my God!

INT. RENTAL EDV - NIGHT

Marie is driving the EDV because she's using her phone for directions, when she notices the red dot is now blinking and beeping. The number says 93.

MARIE

Hold on Bop, I'm trying to get to you...

EXT. MOUNT PLEASANT - NIGHT

Boppa struggles up the incline, leaning forward, staggering every few steps. He is sweating heavily and biting his bottom lip as he holds the straps to the backpack. He stops, just for a quick moment, to look up the trail to see how much farther he has to go. He can see the full moon through the trees at the top.

BOPPA

Almost there dear.

He puts his head down and continues forward up the path.

EXT. LANCASTER CITY STREET - NIGHT

Marie, in the rental EDV, moves quickly down Fair avenue.

INT. RENTAL EDV - NIGHT

Marie looks out the windshield to the illuminated face of Mount Pleasant, then looks at her phone.

MARIE

The mountain... that's it!

EXT. LANCASTER CITY STREET - NIGHT

The rental EDV turns left onto High street in front of the Mountain.

EXT. TOP OF MOUNT PLEASANT - NIGHT

With the sounds of sirens in the distance, Boppa stands at the top, looking out over the city. He takes the urn and the bottle of Makers out of the backpack, sits down and winces in pain. A small tear rolls down his cheek. He takes the bottle of Makers and opens it up, then looks down at the urn sitting next to him.

BOPPA

I told you a long time ago, that we would come back and spend an anniversary on top this rock.

He rubs the top of the urn then tilts back the bottle of Makers and takes a big swig.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I'm a man of my word.

He holds the urn in his arms and looks up to the full moon.

EXT. MOUNT PLEASANT - NIGHT

Marie runs towards the trail as the sirens and lights get closer. There's a beeping sound that is not in sync with the beeping sound on her phone.

MARIE

Bop? Boppa!

Marie runs towards the sound. She gets to the area where she hears the beeping, then turns off her monitor to listen.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Bop, where are you?

She spots the monitor off the path and picks it up. She looks up the trail and begins running towards the top.

EXT. TOP OF MOUNT PLEASANT - NIGHT

Boppa looks to the moon and sings.

BOPPA

Because I'm still in love with you,
I want to see you dance again.

He winces slightly.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

Because I'm still in love with you,
on this harvest moon.

He closes his eyes for a moment, when he's struck by another chest pain.

Realizing this one won't pass, he struggles to set the urn down gently before he collapses next to it.

MARIE (O.C.)

Bop! Bop!

She gets to the top and sees him lying on a rock with Nana's urn and the bottle of Makers next to him.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Boppa no!

She runs to him and begins to shake him.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Boppa, why? Boppa?

She cries as he opens his eyes and looks to her.

BOPPA

Hope?

MARIE

Bop it's me, Marie.

BOPPA

Hope...It's good to see you.

He blinks a couple of times, then looks at the moon.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I'm not afraid.

MARIE

Boppa?!

BOPPA

I love you.

Boppa closes his eyes.

MARIE

No, Boppa no. Boppa? Boppa!

Marie puts her head on Boppa's chest and cries as paramedics arrive.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Under a bright white sun, Boppa(50) is walking with Nana(50) hand in hand along a beach, both dressed in white pants and shirts, smiling at each other. They stop and turn towards each other.

BOPPA 50

When's the last time I told you how beautiful you are?

NANA 50

Three times a day, every day for sixty nine and a half years.

He smiles and then brings her in for a big hug.

BOPPA 50

I really miss this, I mean, just
being with you. The day you...
well, it should have been me.

He hugs her tighter. They pull back from one another and as
he goes to kiss her, she puts a finger on his lips.

NANA 50

Hold on.

He looks perplexed.

BOPPA 50

I am, and I'm not letting go.

NANA 50

No, you can't kiss me yet.

BOPPA 50

Excuse me, but I'd really like to
kiss you.

Nana smiles, then takes his hands.

NANA 50

Not now, it's not your time.

BOPPA 50

Not my time for what?

NANA 50

To be here.

He shakes his head no.

BOPPA 50

Oh no, it's time.

NANA 50

The family still needs you.

His mouth is agape.

BOPPA 50

Are you serious? Our wonderful
little family can take care of
themselves. Your Great
Granddaughter especially.

NANA 50

They still need you, whether you
want to believe that or not.

His smile has gone blank.

NANA 50 (CONT'D)

If you were on this side, and I was standing on your side, what would you say?

BOPPA 50

But they loved you more. Of course I'd want you to be with them.

She smiles and slowly lets go of his hands.

NANA 50

It's not that they love you or I more, it's that they love us. Right now, you're us to them.

His blank stare turns to realization.

NANA 50 (CONT'D)

We'll be together soon, but now is not the time.

He reaches for her but she slowly starts to back up.

BOPPA 50

No, I'm ready now.

Nana 50's voice changes to Marie's voice.

NANA 50 (MARIE)

Boppa?

He shakes his head as if to clear the cobwebs.

BOPPA 50

Hope? Where are you going?

Nana's face begins to blur out.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

From the blur of Nana's face it comes back into focus with Marie standing over Boppa's hospital bed with Mia and Rolland off to the side.

Boppa sees Marie and gets a big smile on his face. He looks over as Mia and Rolland stand up and come closer. They both smile as well as he looks back at Marie.

BOPPA

Hey Peanut.

A tear rolls down Marie's cheek as she smiles and leans in to give him a kiss.

MARIE

Boppa, you scared me to death.

He smiles.

BOPPA

That was never my intent.

Marie puts her chin on the bed railing.

MARIE

I know.

He smiles wider.

BOPPA

I promised Nana, I had to get up on top that rock.

He looks towards Mia and Rolland, then back to Marie.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

I just saw her... Nana.

Mia is holding a tissue up to catch her tears as Rolland tries to hold back his own.

BOPPA (CONT'D)

She said it wasn't my time.

MARIE

It isn't your time.

Boppa stares into Marie's eyes.

BOPPA

Why not?

Marie points to his night stand next to the bed where Nana's urn and the bottle of Makers sits.

MARIE

You still have half a bottle of Makers left.

Boppa laughs which causes him some pain.

BOPPA

Oh God, that hurt.

He looks up at Mia and Rolland.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Don't you dare blame her for this;
 it was all my doing.

Mia takes his hand.

MIA
 She explained everything. We're
 just glad you're OK.

Boppa smiles, then looks back to Marie.

BOPPA
 How'd you find me.

MARIE
 I took your advice and didn't
 worry, and had confidence in
 myself.

BOPPA
 I knew you had it in you.

He gives her a wink.

BOPPA (CONT'D)
 Sorry I didn't give you much to
 work with for your thesis.

Marie turns and picks up her lap hologram.

MARIE
 Are you kidding, you gave me more
 than enough to write about.

She turns it so Boppa can see what she has written.
 ["Road Trip with Boppa"]

MARIE (CONT'D)
 It's a working title.

He smiles wide as Marie leans in for a hug.

FADE TO:

EXT. MIA AND ROLLAND'S BACKYARD - DAY

On a bright warm day in Mia and Rolland's backyard, there are streamers and a big banner that says "Congratulations Graduate!" Several people walk around, holding drinks and eating cake as Marie makes her way through the crowd.

MARIE (V.O.)

Few people have a chance to know their fourth generation ancestors while those ancestors are still vibrant members of society. A select few have the opportunity to converse with them about the past. There will always be family stories passed down from generation to generation; pictures, videos and holograms; but rarely can you spend time with someone who has impacted your entire family's lives and learn more about yourself in the process.

Matt and Jade are standing, laughing and talking with Mia and Rolland as Marie stops to hug Matt. Behind them, on a raised platform deck in a rocking chair is Boppa.

MARIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I had that opportunity. To spend time with a wise man, who, in his own way, showed me what true love and family is all about. One wonderful, intense, ominous twenty four hours that I can honestly say, changed my life.

As Marie approaches him, Boppa, with an Old Fashioned in one hand and a tablet in the other, smiles wide.

MARIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I got to spend that time with the paterfamilias, the patriarch of our family and now, I can say, my best friend. I got to spend it with my Boppa.

The tablet in Boppa's hand is on and open to NFN (Not Fake News). It's on a stream, and on the header is the name Marie Derring, and beneath that is the title "Ask Boppa". Boppa salutes with his Old Fashioned, smiles and winks.

FADE TO BLACK.