

Dialogue Scene #6 - Audrey's Obsession

(BG is a gray expanse, ash slowly drifts down from the sky. A single burnt tree stands in the void. It takes a gnarled and angular shape)

SCENE START:

Audrey talks to Clint over the phone from a dig site in Indonesia.

Clint:

Hello? Audrey? You there?

Audrey:

Yeah. I'm here.

Clint:

God, it's hot!

Clint:

I knew Indonesia was gonna be humid, but this is a whole new level.

Audrey:

Why are you calling? You almost here?

Clint:

Just landed. Still at the airport.

Clint:

Just checking in on some purchases you made.

(PAUSE)

Clint

So... next is Libya! The Sahara? I had no idea.

Audrey:

Well - what do you mean? We have evidence at this digsite proving Kalahari could be in northern Africa.

Clint:

Just like how in Peru, evidence "proved" Kalahari could be in Indonesia?

Clint:

You know... where we are right now?

Audrey:

Yeah, but -

Clint:

Or how clues in Cambodia "had evidence" Kalahari was in Peru?

Clint:

Siberia? Madagascar? Iran?

Clint:

See what I'm getting at here?

Audrey:

Clint, you have to see what I'm looking at right now, we have real, tangible proof here!

Clint:

Yes, which is amazing! I agree...

Clint:

That doesn't change the fact that this could just be another clue in a long line of neverending evidence.

Audrey:

I'm sorry, I already bought the tickets.

Clint:

Yeah. I know...

Clint:

Which leads me to my next point-

Clint:

I know what this means to you-

Clint:

but I didn't know we were going.

Audrey:

Well, I just decided today.

Audrey:

I wasn't keeping it from you.

Clint:

You bought the tickets without telling me!

Clint:

What about the equipment?

Clint:

The crew?

Clint:

How will we pay them??

Clint:

Where will we even begin searching?!

Clint:

Our current dig site is on the other side of the world right now!

Audrey:

I'm sorry.

Clint:

It's okay...

Clint:

You just gotta rope me in.

Clint:

We're partners, I have your back Audrey, I'm here for you.

Clint:

But we also have to be realistic. We're losing money. Fast.

Audrey:

Again, I'm sorry.

Clint:

I have no problem with going, I just wish you'd think to tell me.

Audrey:

Well, I just apologized, Clint.

Clint:

No, Audrey. You're saying "sorry" but all I'm hearing is "too bad."

(PAUSE)

Clint:

Listen - I don't even need an apology, lets just talk about it-

Audrey:

You don't even care.

Clint:

What??

Audrey:

You don't care about this anymore.

Audrey:

You just want to go home.

Clint:

No Audrey, what I care about is YOU. I'm worried for YOU.

Audrey:

Why?

Clint:

You're suffering! I can see it every day-

Clint:

and this endless search for Kalahari is not helping you!

Clint:

What you've gone through is horrible, it's unfair-

Audrey:

I'm aware-

Clint:

- but I'm just trying to look out for you.

Clint:

At some point, you have to stop..

Audrey:

Stop?

(PAUSE)

Audrey:

Stop what exactly?

Clint:

Stop searching.

Audrey:

Stop searching?!

Audrey:

You can leave at any time Clint, you don't need to be here!

Clint:

Audrey...

Audrey:

We're so close! If I give up now, what's the point?!

Clint:

It's been a year since we left home! We're low on funds, I -

(PAUSE)

Clint:

You're stronger than this Audrey.

Audrey:

I'm what..?

Clint:

You're my best friend, I'm just trying to help you.

Clint:

This has been quite the adventure, but it's time to go home.

Audrey:

Y-you...

Audrey:

ADVENTURE?

Audrey:

My mom dying was not "quite the adventure."

Audrey:

Me, sitting in this sweltering heat halfway around the goddamn world isn't an "adventure."

Audrey:

NONE OF THIS has been an adventure for me.

Audrey:

I'm not doing this to go on some kind of self-pity vacation Clint.

Audrey:

I'm doing this because it's all I HAVE LEFT.

Clint:

Okay, I'm sorry-

Audrey:

You're a fucking idiot, you know that?

Clint:

What the hell?

Audrey:

“What the hell??”

Audrey:

I can't just change my life whenever YOU want me to.

Audrey:

Sometimes people do things because they have NO OTHER CHOICE.

Clint:

You can always choose.

Audrey:

Choose what?!

Audrey:

Please. Enlighten me. What is my choice here??

Clint:

Choose to stop this! This search!

Clint:

It's become an obsession, it's hurting you!

Clint:

You need to let go.

Audrey:

That's your magic solution? Let go??

Audrey:

Thats fuckin' easy for you to say. You've never lost ANYTHING.

Audrey:

You don't even know what LOSS means!

Audrey:

And you call me and tell me how I'm screwing things up??

Audrey:

You tell me to just "let go."

Audrey:

Stop searching??

Audrey:

I don't need your fucking pity Clint.

Audrey:

My mom DIED for this, I need to understand why!

Audrey:

I NEED to know what it means.

Clint:

This isn't right, Audrey...

Audrey:

Yeah, it isn't right. Nothing about this is right.

Audrey:

The whole world isn't right.

Audrey:

Sometimes it feels like you barely fucking know me!

Audrey:

If I can't do this, what the fuck do I have to go back to?

Audrey:

There's NOTHING left for me!

Audrey:

Ohhh but you, of all people, know what I should do.

Audrey:

I don't remember asking for your fucking advice.

(PAUSE)

Audrey:

God - I...

Audrey:

Clint... I'm -

(PAUSE)

Audrey:

What I do remember is you helping me search for my mom.

Audrey:

For days in the ruins of that forest, long after the firefighters stopped looking.

Audrey:

You were there for me.

Audrey:

I need you to be here for me now.

Clint:

I am here for you.

Clint:

But... in the end what did we find Audrey?

Clint:

What we both always knew we would find.

Clint:

No matter how badly you didn't want to believe it.

Clint:

Maybe giving you hope when I knew there was none just hurt you more, and I'm sorry-

Clint:

-but I won't do it again, not like this.

Audrey:

So, you don't believe me.

Audrey:

You don't believe Kalahari exists!

Clint:

You.

Clint:

Are in.

Clint:

Denial.

Clint:

I believe that.

Audrey:

Fuck. You.

(PAUSE)

Clint:

I'm sorry.

Audrey:

Yeah, you're sorry. Everyone's sorry. But I'm the only one trying to actually fix this!

Clint:

Audrey, fix what? I -

Audrey:

Who was I kidding? You can't understand.

Audrey:

You don't know what it's like, you could never know.

Audrey:

Just go home Clint.

Clint:

Go home?!

Clint:

So this is it?

Audrey:

Yeah. This is it.

Audrey:

Take the money, the crew. I don't care. If you won't help me, I'll do it alone.

Audrey:

Just leave.

(END SCENE)

Transition to Industrial Zone Level.