

# ◆Crystal Clear◆

by:

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## Characters

### Tanya:

An aquarist who is 24 years old. Very caring and stands her ground. She has been in a committed relationship with Erica for seven years. She has suppressed trauma and is suffering with complicated grief from her girlfriend's fatal accident a year prior, and has been seeing her as a hallucination for a year.

### Erica:

Dead. A former 24 year old illustrator who passed away in a fatal motorcycle accident a year ago. A wild-child, impulsive and possessive, she loves her girlfriend tremendously. Isolates Tanya from her family so that they can continue being together in her mind. Lives as a hallucination in Tanya's mind.

### Austin:

Tanya's brief ex-boyfriend/rebound in college. Mid 20s. Left off on good terms and cares for Tanya. Currently works as a software developer and lives in a studio apartment in the same building where Erica lived.

### Kiara:

Tanya's estranged sister, Mid 20s. She is six months pregnant and wants a relationship with her sister again so that her sister will know her baby. Moved out a year ago after Erica's death because she could not stand her mother playing into the illusion that Erica is alive for Tanya.

### Ellie:

Tanya's coworker and best friend at the aquarium. 24 years old, bubbly and energetic and supports her endlessly. Has never met Erica despite knowing Tanya for a few years. Has only heard of her through what Tanya tells her. Always honest with her.

### Mason:

Tanya's boss of 3 years who thinks very highly of her. Recently promoted her to Junior Aquarist and values her hard work. Serious and stoic personality, but kind and caring nonetheless.

### Georgia:

Another coworker at the aquarium who tries very hard at her job. Competitive with the other coworkers, but harmless. Unintentionally funny.

### Coworkers:

Coworkers at the aquarium who just really enjoy Marine Life. Also make appearances in scenes with Tanya and Erica.

### Mom (voice):

Kiara and Tanya's mother. Plays into the illusion that Erica is still alive after Tanya awakens from the coma. Pressured Kiara into keeping the illusion a secret or else she'd kick her out. Also manipulated Tanya into believing that Kiara abandoned their family.

### Pandora:

Tanya's older friend, mid 20s, from college who knew her and Erica before the accident. Attended the funeral and is under the impression that Tanya knows Erica is dead.

# Musical Numbers

## ACT I

0. PROLOGUE.....Band

### SCENE ONE

1. A NEW START.....Erica, Tanya, Company

2. RECYCLING / PHONE CALL.....Band

### SCENE TWO

3. CLEARWATER PROMOTION.....Band

4. CRYSTAL CLEAR.....Ellie, Tanya, Mason, Coworkers

5. CRYSTAL CLEAR (PLAYOFF).....Band

### SCENE THREE

6. OUR BROKEN HOME.....Kiara

### SCENE FOUR

7. PARK PANIC.....Band

8. TANYA'S APARTMENT.....Band

9. GOODBYES.....Tanya

### SCENE FIVE

10. A NEW START (REPRISE).....Erica, Tanya

### SCENE SIX

11. A TALE OF TWO APARTMENTS.....Band

12. THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS.....Austin, Kiara, Coworkers

SCENE SEVEN

13. RETURN TO THE AQUARIUM.....Band

14. SNELL'S WINDOW.....Tanya, Ellie, Mason, Georgia, Coworkers

SCENE EIGHT

15. AUSTIN'S APARTMENT.....Band

16. TO FORGIVE, BUT NOT FORGET.....Tanya, Kiara

SCENE NINE

17. ERICA'S APARTMENT.....Band

18. SLOW DANCE (SENSELESS).....Band

19. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? (ACT I FINALE).....Erica, Tanya, Company

**ACT II**

20. ENTR'ACTE.....Band

SCENE ONE

SCENE TWO

21. DEAD TO HER.....Band

22. DEAR AMELIA.....Kiara

SCENE THREE

23. PARK PANIC II.....Band

SCENE FOUR

24. ERICA'S APARTMENT II.....Band

25. I'M STILL HERE.....Austin, Tanya

SCENE FIVE

26. MASON’S OFFICE / TANYA RESIGNS.....Band

27. CRYSTAL CLEAR (REPRISE).....Coworkers

SCENE SIX

28. OBSOLETE.....Kiara, Austin, Ellie, Coworkers

SCENE SEVEN

SCENE EIGHT

29. KEYS, KEYS / TANYA REALIZES.....Band

30. YOU’RE STILL HERE.....Tanya, Erica

31. FLASHBACK.....Band

SCENE NINE

32. TWO YEARS LATER.....Band

33. FAREWELL, FOR NOW (ACT II FINALE).....Tanya, Kiara, Austin, Ellie, Company

34. BOWS.....Company

**ACT ONE**  
*BEFORE CURTAIN / LIGHTS*

*0. Prologue*

*Band*

**Scene One**

**“Shock”**

*Lights up on Erica’s apartment.. Boxes are scattered about the living room.. ERICA is placing home decor in boxes and walking busily around her living room. A knock is heard offstage before the door swings open. ERICA flinches with an object in her hand. TANYA enters and takes notice of all of the boxes.*

ERICA

Geez, Tanya! You scared me.

TANYA

You left the door open!

ERICA

Oh, I keep doing that.

*TANYA closes the door behind her and she continues looking around the room. ERICA walks up to her and gives her a kiss on the cheek.*

Missed you.

TANYA

I missed you too...

*She trails off the conversation, distracted by all of the covered furniture and boxes.*

*(gesturing around)* Are you going somewhere?

ERICA  
(*smiling*)

Something like that.

*ERICA sheepishly walks over to the coffee table. She grabs a box and holds it behind her back.*

I wasn't expecting you until later on tonight...

*She guides TANYA downstage and flickers a light switch. A SPOTLIGHT settles down on both of them.*

But I don't think I can wait any longer.

TANYA

What are you...

ERICA

... Tanya Amelia Holland, (*kneeling down on one knee*) I love you with everything I have and I never want to be apart from you. Will you marry me?

*TANYA kneels down to ERICA's level, shaking with excitement. She takes her hands in her own and slides the ring on her finger.*

TANYA

Yes!!!

*They hug and kiss excitedly.*

TANYA  
(*emotional*)

I love you so so much. (*eventually*) But I still can't help but wonder why your apartment is packed up right now?

ERICA

That was my second surprise.

*She holds TANYA's hands.*

I want us to move in together.

TANYA

What? Did you find a place already? (*chuckling*) Are you gonna kidnap me from my apartment?

*They let go and TANYA sits down at the half-wrapped coffee table.*

ERICA

No, not yet at least. But I've been looking at a few places for us, and Tanya, there's so much of the world we have yet to explore. We could shop and eat croissants in France, or we could sunbathe and explore the Amazon jungle in Brazil. But, I did have my eye on one particular place.

*She takes TANYA's hand and guides her over to the table where a pamphlet rests. TANYA reads it over carefully.*

TANYA

Houston...?

ERICA

Texas! I've even looked at some career opportunities for you there. And trust me, there is way-y more there than little old Pennsylvania. (*sensing TANYA'S hesitation*) Listen, we're gonna figure it all out. I'm just *really* excited, and well, I figured we'd get a headstart on things. We're not running away tomorrow, and maybe not even next week, but I was thinking in a month.

TANYA

A month?

ERICA

Yes, Sunshine! We've wanted to be together, and I mean together-together for so long now and life's too short. So, I got this ring for you and started packing. And plus, we're both pretty financially stable...



TANYA

*(looking at the dozens of boxes) ... You more than me...*

ERICA

Which is why I'm saying, why not start fresh? You and I have outgrown this place and I really think opportunities are calling us across the country.

TANYA

Erica, as great as the idea sounds, I just don't know.

ERICA

*(confused)*

Do you not want to move in together?

TANYA

Well, of course I do.

ERICA

Then why wait?

TANYA

I mean, there's things in my life that I'm in the middle of, like my job? And my family?

ERICA

By family, you just mean your mom.

*TANYA takes off her jacket and tosses it onto a nearby chair.*

TANYA

Well, maybe not.

*Pause.*

ERICA

I'm confused, I thought you wanted nothing to do with her anymore?

TANYA

*(turning back to ERICA)* Maybe I've had a change of heart, or something... I don't know. And like you said, it's not like we're leaving tomorrow. There's still some time to make changes in our lives.

ERICA

Yeah, but not enough to rewind the clock. What she said can't just be taken back.

TANYA

*(warningly)*

Erica—

*ERICA walks back over to TANYA, pulling her close.*

***1. A New Start***

***Erica, Tanya, Company***

ERICA

Tanya, all I know is that I love you, and I cannot wait to marry you.. You're nervous about all of this, and I completely understand. But trust me when I say that there will be so much to look forward to in the long run.

DON'T YOU WANT A NEW START?  
TILL DEATH DO US PART?  
NO MORE WALLS, NO MORE FIGHTING AGAINST THE ODDS  
'CAUSE WITHOUT YOU  
I WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT A CAUSE

THINK OF ALL THAT COULD BE  
IF YOU JUST LEFT ALONG WITH ME  
NO MORE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS  
WHEN YOU'RE IN MY ARMS  
AND I'M HOLDING YOU TIGHT

'CAUSE I NEVER WANT TO LET YOU GO  
YOUR LOVE'S THE ONE THING  
THAT FEELS LIKE HOME  
YOU'RE ALL THAT I'VE DREAMED OF  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?

YOUR HEART IS WITH MINE  
ONE THING'S FOR SURE

TANYA

IT'S A PLACE WE'D CALL OUR OWN  
WHERE YOU'D NEVER FEEL ALONE  
CAN YOU SEE IT NOW?

TANYA, ERICA

PICTURE FRAMES  
HUNG AROUND OUR LITTLE HOUSE  
NO ONE AROUND  
TO OBJECT OR BRING US DOWN

TANYA

THINK OF WHAT THIS COULD MEAN  
IF WE STARTED NEW LIVES, YOU'LL SEE!

ERICA, ENSEMBLE

WHAT THIS COULD MEAN  
LIVES, YOU'LL SEE!

TANYA

TAKING HIGH TO NEW HEIGHTS  
THERE WILL NEVER BE DARK WHEN

ALL

YOU ARE MY LIGHT

'CAUSE I NEVER WANT TO LET YOU GO  
YOUR LOVE'S THE ONE THING  
THAT FEELS LIKE HOME  
YOU'RE ALL THAT I'VE DREAMED OF  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?  
YOUR HEART IS WITH MINE  
ONE THING'S FOR SURE

ERICA

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THAT DOOR  
BE WITH ME ALWAYS  
THAT'S ALL THAT I ASK  
MOVE ON TO A NEW LIFE  
NO HOLDING BACK

ALL (*except* TANYA)

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
 ONLY YOU, NOTHING MORE  
 BE WITH ME ALWAYS  
 THAT'S ALL THAT I ASK

ENSEMBLE

FOR

ERICA

ALL I NEED IS YOUR ANSWER  
 ONE REQUEST THAT I ASK  
 WILL YOU DO ME THE HONOR?  
 OR AM I TOO OFF TRACK?

ENSEMBLE

ANSWER ME  
 WILL YOU MARRY ME?

TANYA

I'LL BE WITH YOU ALWAYS  
 THAT ONE THING'S FOR SURE  
 I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
 MY HEART IS ONLY YOURS

*TANYA and ERICA hug excitedly  
 and share a kiss.*

TANYA

Let me grab some more boxes. I'll be right back.

## ***2. Recycling / Phone Call***

***Band***

*She walks away, her hands  
 lingering in ERICA's before she  
 exits. The stage darkens upstage  
 on ERICA in her living room.  
 TANYA exits. Boxes are placed  
 downstage as TANYA re-enters.  
 Lights up on the recycling room in  
 Erica's apartment building.*

*TANYA enters and begins picking up the empty boxes and stacking them into each other.*

*Enter AUSTIN holding a recycling bag. They smile at one another. He dispenses his bag into a recycling bin.*

*Then suddenly, AUSTIN turns to TANYA, thinking he might recognize her as someone he knows.*

Tanya?  
AUSTIN

Austin? Hey! Wow... it's been forever since I've seen you.  
TANYA  
*(awkward)*

You look good.  
AUSTIN  
*(chuckling)*

You look well, yourself!  
TANYA

*They stand there awkwardly for a few moments before mutually deciding to hug. They part briefly.*

So uh... how've you been? How's Taylor?  
TANYA

Still living in my parent's basement. He thinks his garage band is days away from reaching their debut.  
AUSTIN

TANYA

His garage band? I didn't know people still did that.

AUSTIN

You'd be surprised. Retro has crept its way back in style. Anyway, um, how have you been? *(uneasy)* How is everything with you? I didn't know you lived here.

TANYA

Everything has been great! And actually, I don't live here. Ironically, you'll be the first to know, but...

*She reveals the ring to AUSTIN.  
He examines it in awe.*

AUSTIN

Wow, wow, congratulations! Who's the lucky person?

TANYA

Well, you definitely called it about two or three years ago, but... it's Erica.

*His expression falls. His eyes  
linger on the ring.*

*A BEAT.*

AUSTIN

Erica?

TANYA

Yes! Oh, geez, I hope this isn't awkward or anything...

AUSTIN

No... uh, no definitely not, um, when did this happen?

TANYA

Today! And we're also trying to find a place to move in together, but we're figuring it out day by day.

AUSTIN

That's all really great! I'm so happy for the two of you...

TANYA

*(giddy)*

Thanks! Well, I gotta get going, the future Mrs. is waiting. God that is *so* weird to say! *(picking up the stack of boxes)* It was really nice seeing you, Austin.

*TANYA exits. AUSTIN stares over to where she leaves and appears confused. He takes out his cellphone and places a call.*

AUSTIN

*(on the phone)*

Hi, uh, this is Austin, and hopefully I've got the right number and I'm speaking to Kiara. You probably don't remember me, but I was your sister's old... friend from college. Dated her briefly but that doesn't really matter. Anyway, I just ran into Tanya and... she's engaged! So uh, to make a long message short, give me a call back when you can. Thanks... Bye.

*He hangs up and tosses a fallen bottle into the recycling before exiting.*

*Lights down.*

### ***3. Clearwater Promotion***

***Band***

#### **Scene Two**

#### **“Dissociation”**

*Blue Lights up on a projection that resembles an aquarium with dozens of fish swimming in a tank. TANYA and her co-workers enter with champagne glasses, celebrating, eating cake and enjoying themselves. Ripple lights up on ALL.*

MASON

*(raising his glass)* To our highly qualified and phenomenal Junior Aquarist, Tanya.

ALL

*(excluding TANYA)*

*(raising their glasses)* To Tanya!

ELLIE

The *most* qualified if you ask me.

TANYA

Awh, El.

GEORGIA

Yeah, Tan. Took three years, but you got there eventually!

ELLIE

Okay, Georgia, and you were in Visitor Services for how long?

*TANYA and the other workers  
laugh.*

GEORGIA

*(hurt)*

It was an internship!

*She chugs the rest of her glass  
and COWORKER pats his back.*

ELLIE

*(to TANYA)*

Seriously, girl, congratulations! It's about time you got promoted. I bet you didn't expect this when you woke up this morning.

TANYA

I didn't expect *a ton* of things when I woke up this morning, actually.

ELLIE

How so?

TANYA

Now don't react...

*She reveals her ring to ELLIE,  
who yelps. TANYA covers her  
mouth.*



(TANYA)  
*(quietly)*

I told you not to react!

ELLIE

You know how I get over these kinds of things! *(pulling her into a bone-crushing hug)* I'm so so happy for you!

TANYA  
*(in pain)*

Squeezing... me... to death... losing... air.

*ELLIE releases her and TANYA sighs in relief.*

ELLIE

This is so exciting! You should get started on everything right away, like picking out a // venue, a dress, a photographer, wow, okay, let me find my center.

TANYA  
*(looking around)*

// keep your voice down!

*ELLIE closes her eyes and pinches both of her thumb and index fingers together for a moment, resembling meditation. TANYA waits as ELLIE takes a breath.*

MASON

Just got word from Visitor Services that we're opening up in five minutes, so make sure all those tanks look clean and our sea friends look happy.

GEORGIA

On it!

*The workers disburse around the stage, checking on different sides of the aquarium projection. Each time a character sings, a spotlight shines down on them.*

THE WATER'S CLEAN	ELLIE
IT'S RATHER SPARKLING	TANYA
THERE'S MUCH TO SEE	MASON
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING	ELLIE
RIGHT BEHIND AND THROUGH THE GLASS	TANYA
DO THEY WATCH AND DO THEY LISTEN?	MASON
WITHIN THIS CAVE OF EXHIBITION?	ELLIE
BEYOND THIS SCREEN I COULD DISAPPEAR	TANYA
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL IT LOOKS CRYSTAL CLEAR	MASON

ALL

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

ELLIE

HAVE THEY MADE THIS THEIR HOME?

TANYA

OR DO THEY FEEL LOCKED AWAY?

MASON

IS THIS A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN FEEL  
LIKE THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID?

ELLIE

IT'S A LANGUAGE WE DON'T SPEAK

TANYA

IF WE ONLY KNEW WHAT THEY'D SAY

MASON

IF THEY HAD ANOTHER WAY OUT  
WOULD THEY SWIM THE OTHER WAY?

ELLIE, TANYA, MASON

THIS IS A PLACE  
WHERE THEY CAN ROAM FREE AND SAFE  
'CAUSE THE WATER'S CRYSTAL CLEAR

*The COWORKERS take off their  
uniforms, and turn into majestic  
fish creatures.*

ELLIE

OOH, OOH

ELLIE, TANYA

OOH, OOH (OOH)

ELLIE, TANYA, MASON

OOH, OOH (OOH)

COWORKERS

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

ELLIE, TANYA, MASON

OOH  
OOH (OOH)

ALL

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

*A crowd barrier is placed  
downstage. MASON walks behind  
it and unhooks the rope. The  
COWORKERS proudly stand  
behind him in a staggered  
formation.*

MASON

Alright everyone, let's get this show on the road.

*BLACKOUT.*

### Scene Three

#### **“Depression”**

*Next afternoon. Kiara’s apartment. Enter KIARA who sits down with a cellphone in hand. Lights up as she rubs her baby bump and stares at her phone resting beside her. She hesitates a few times to reach for it. Eventually, KIARA grabs it and begins dialing. Once she hears it ringing, she panics and hangs up.*

#### **6. Our Broken Home**

**Kiara**

KIARA  
*(to herself)*

Come on, get a grip Kiara.

*She holds the phone in front of her and takes a breath. KIARA presses the button before thinking about it and lets it ring. Sounds of a heartbeat can be heard as the dial tone rings a few more times. The automated voicemail recording begins to play.*

#### VOICEMAIL BOX

*Your call has been forwarded to an automated voice messaging system. (TANYA’s recorded voice) “Tanya Holland” is not available. After the tone, please record your message. When you have finished recording, you may hang up, or press 1 for more options.*

KIARA

HEY, IT’S ME  
AN ESTRANGED NUMBER IN YOUR VOICEMAIL BOX  
I’VE CALLED MAYBE ONCE OR TWICE BEFORE  
BUT I KNOW IT’S BEEN A LONG TIME  
SINCE YOU’VE PICKED UP ANYMORE

AND I WONDER IF YOU’LL LISTEN  
AFTER THE TONE

OR IF YOU EVER THINK TO CALL ME  
WHEN YOU FEEL ALONE

SO, IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE  
PLEASE DON'T HANG UP THE PHONE  
'CAUSE THIS IS ME TAKING MY CHANCES  
TO HEAL THE WOUNDS  
FROM OUR BROKEN HOME  
FROM OUR BROKEN HOME

BUT I DIDN'T LEAVE BECAUSE OF YOU  
AND I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU'VE HEARD  
A DIFFERENT STORY, PERHAPS  
WHERE THE TRUTH WAS BLURRED

AND I WONDER IF YOU'LL LISTEN  
AFTER THE TONE  
OR IF YOU'LL EVER TRY TO MEET HER  
BEFORE SHE'S GROWN

SO, IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE  
PLEASE DON'T HANG UP THE PHONE  
'CAUSE THIS IS ME TAKING MY CHANCES  
TO HEAL THE WOUNDS  
FROM OUR BROKEN HOME  
FROM OUR BROKEN HOME

I HOPE SOMEDAY  
SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD  
WE'LL BE ALRIGHT  
AFTER THE TRUTH'S BEEN TOLD  
THERE'S BEEN A WALL BETWEEN YOU AND I  
THAT CAN KNOCK BACK DOWN  
IF I REALLY TRY

SO, IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE  
PLEASE DON'T HANG UP THE PHONE  
HOPE I HAVEN'T RUN OUT OF CHANCES  
TO HEAL THE WOUNDS  
FROM OUR BROKEN HOME

## FROM OUR BROKEN HOME

## VOICEMAIL BOX

*–We’re sorry, this voicemail box is full. Goodbye.*

*KIARA drops her phone next to her on the couch. She sighs and rests her hand on her cheek. She draws back her phone and notices a voicemail message notification closely and is visually perplexed.*

## KIARA

Voicemail from... Austin Torell?

*KIARA presses the phone to her ear and listens closely. Her facial expressions react as she listens to the relayed message. As soon as it finishes, she rests her phone on her lap.*

Oh my god.

*She stands up and grabs her jacket off a hook, walking to the front door and yanking it open.*

*Lights down.*

**7. Park Panic****Band****Scene Four****“Panic”**

*Lights up on a single bench in an Aquarium Rest Area. KIARA enters and sits down on the bench. She anxiously waits, constantly glancing at her watch. Eventually, AUSTIN enters.*

## AUSTIN

Kiara, hey! *(noticing her belly)* Woah, it’s been a while!

KIARA

Hi Austin! *(standing up to greet him)* It so has.

*They hug briefly before sitting down on the bench.*

AUSTIN

How's everything been?

KIARA

Pretty good! Pretty pregnant, five months, but I've been doing well.

AUSTIN

Wow, Kiara, congratulations!

KIARA

Thank you! My fiance has been teaching overseas for a few months now, but once he comes back, we're definitely upgrading to a bigger place from our tiny apartment.

AUSTIN

That's so great! I'm glad you're doing well.

KIARA

For the most part...what about you?

*AUSTIN opens his mouth to speak, but closes it, realizing not much has changed within quite some time.*

AUSTIN

Well, I'm working in IT, paying rent for my studio apartment, so not too much. You and Tanya have always moved pretty quickly though, so I guess I'm not too surprised.

KIARA

Yeah, that's what it sounded like from your voicemail.

AUSTIN

I was gonna try your mom, but then I remembered--



KIARA

--I know, I'm glad you came to me first.

*(uneasy)*

She okay?

AUSTIN

Have you spoken to her recently?

KIARA

*(shaking her head)* No. Not in a year.

AUSTIN

A year?

KIARA

Yeah, some stuff went down at our parent's house after I moved out and she's been freezing me out ever since, I just *wish* I knew why. So, you saw her?

AUSTIN

Ran into her in my apartment building, yeah. But she doesn't live there... *(giving her a worried look)* Erica does.

KIARA

*(slowly processing, eyes locking with his)*

... Erica does.

AUSTIN

And they're planning on moving in together and eventually getting married.

*KIARA is speechless. She takes a moment to process this information. She stands up and begins to pace back and forth.*

Sorry, I didn't exactly rehearse how I was gonna tell you this.

KIARA

When did this happen?

AUSTIN

Same day I saw her, yesterday.

*She sits back down on the bench.*

KIARA

She can't do this. (*urgently*) You have to tell her, she can't do this!

AUSTIN

I don't think she's gonna listen to me, Kiara. Especially when she thinks it's coming from the place of a "jealous-ex-boyfriend".

KIARA

Well, there's no way in hell she'd ever talk to me. I've been trying to reach out every few months ever since she exiled me from her life. She has me blocked on practically everything! I can't even see her *Pinterest* boards.

AUSTIN

Well there has to be some way to get you two in the same room together. All I know is that I can't just try and talk her out of it on my own.

*A BEAT.*

KIARA

I might have an idea. And I think I could use your help.

*Lights down.*

## **8. Tanya's Apartment**

**Band**

*Lights up. Some time has passed. TANYA's apartment. Her living room. There are a few open boxes.. Random apartment items are scattered on the floor, along with a few photo albums. She has a cellphone pressed to her cheek.*

TANYA  
*(on the phone)*

I appreciate that mom, but I think Erica and I can handle it... *(chuckling)* It's not like we're gonna be lifting the couch and armoire. We hired movers to do that part. Yes, I will. I'll call you if we need absolutely anything, okay? I love you. Okay. I'll send her your love. Bye.

**9. Goodbyes**

*Tanya*

*TANYA sits on the floor,  
 continuing to wrap some items  
 away and takes notice of a photo  
 album. She hesitates before  
 opening it up and flipping through  
 some pages.*

TANYA  
 SMOOTHING OUT THE FOLDED CREASES  
 READING ALL THE DATES FROM WAY BACK WHEN  
 WHEN DID YESTERDAY'S ADVENTURES  
 BECOME A DISTANT MEMORY?  
 IN A HEARTBEAT?

AND WHEN TOMORROW COMES  
 THESE DAYS WILL DRIFT FURTHER AWAY

'CAUSE YOU KNOW I HATE GOODBYES  
 I NEVER KNOW WHAT QUITE TO SAY  
 AM I BETTER OFF JUST MOVING FORWARD  
 THAN GONE WITHOUT A TRACE?

SCATTERED MEMORIES LEFT ON THE FLOOR  
 TIRED SMILES AND PLAYING IN THE SAND  
 YOU WERE MY BEST FRIEND  
 AND YOU WERE JUST A ROOM AWAY  
 GETTING TALLER AND TALLER EVERY DAY  
 WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THOSE DAYS?

AND WHEN TOMORROW'S DONE  
 THESE DAYS WILL WASH AWAY

‘CAUSE YOU KNOW I HATE GOODBYES  
 I NEVER KNOW WHAT QUITE TO SAY  
 AM I BETTER OFF JUST MOVING FORWARD  
 AND GONE WITHOUT A TRACE?

WISH I COULD FORGIVE  
 BUT I CAN’T FORGET  
 WHEN YOU LEFT ME IN THE PAST  
 MMH

AND YOU MADE YOUR BED  
 WHEN YOU CLOSED THE DOOR  
 ON THE ONE WHO YOU PUT LAST

‘CAUSE YOU KNOW I HATE GOODBYES  
 I NEVER KNOW WHAT QUITE TO SAY  
 AM I BETTER OFF JUST MOVING FORWARD  
 LIKE I NEVER SAW YOUR FACE?

OR WILL I EVER SEE YOU AGAIN?  
 AND IF I DID, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

*TANYA closes the photo album  
 and rests it up against the couch.  
 She glances down at the ring and  
 studies it. Sounds of knocking on a  
 door are heard. TANYA gets up  
 and answers it. ERICA walks in.*

### **Scene Five**

#### **“Guilt”**

ERICA

Knock knock.

TANYA

Hey! I wasn’t expecting you until later.

ERICA

I thought I'd pop by earlier, see how everything is coming along.

*She notices the ring on TANYA's finger.*

*(teasing)*

My my, what a gorgeous ring! I wonder where you got it?

TANYA

Oh, this thing here? I can hardly remember.

*They laugh and share a hug. Parting, ERICA lifts TANYA's hand.*

ERICA

It looks beautiful on you.

*She lifts her hand all the way up and twirls TANYA. They giggle together.*

TANYA

*(once stilling herself)* Why, thank you. I can make us dinner, if you want. Pop a frozen pizza in the oven.

ERICA

Just ate before I got here, but thank you, Love. You should eat, how long have you been packing?

TANYA

A few hours, but you're right, I could use a food break in a little, anyway.

*TANYA plops herself onto the couch, stretching her arms. ERICA joins her.*

ERICA

How much have you packed?

TANYA

Um, I mainly focused on the things I haven't been using, like, old storage and what not.

*ERICA caresses TANYA's hair  
comfortingly. She leans into it.*

ERICA

You feeling alright?

TANYA

Yeah, I'm okay. You know that thing where you're going through old stuff to throw out or donate, and you get all nostalgic over some... object or old toy, and that delays your progress?

ERICA

Of course.

*She picks a photo album off the  
floor and opens to a page.*

TANYA

My school captioned this picture "attached to the hip" because we dressed up together as a pair of pants that year. One sister per leg-hole. (*A BEAT*) I know it's dumb, but sometimes I still miss her.

ERICA

Is she the reason you feel hesitant? To leave?

TANYA

I mean, she's not the only reason, but yeah, she is part of it. I'm afraid that if I leave, that'll make us complete strangers.

ERICA

I understand how you feel. If you remember, I was the same way with my mother in high school. But, I eventually learned that sometimes if you try to fix something that's already broken, it could get more damaged than it was before.

TANYA

People can change, Erica--

ERICA

--or they can pretend like they have.

*TANYA's gaze lingers on ERICA,  
puzzled.*

TANYA

Why don't you want me to try?

*ERICA takes a moment to relax.  
She softens.*

ERICA

Listen, I do, trust me. I just don't want you to get hurt all over again. She walked out because she didn't understand you--us--and it didn't seem like she cared to. God forbid you see her again and she tries talking you out of getting married. I just don't want to see you stressed out and heartbroken. She may not be that girl you knew growing up anymore.

***10. A New Start (Reprise)***

***Erica, Tanya***

*TANYA stares down at the photo album, touching the picture in front of her. A BEAT. With much strength, she eventually closes the book and hugs ERICA tightly. ERICA caresses her hair.*

ERICA

It's gonna be okay. I'm here with you.

DON'T YOU WANT THAT NEW START?  
WITHOUT A BROKEN HEART?  
DRY THOSE EYES  
LET ME TAKE ALL OF YOUR PAIN  
IT WON'T BE LONG  
TILL WE FIND THE PLACE WHERE WE BELONG

THINK OF ALL THAT COULD BE  
IF WE JUST LEFT SO EASILY  
NO MORE ENDLESS FIGHTS

ONCE WE'RE OUT OF TOWN  
AND NO ONE'S HOLDING YOU DOWN

ERICA, TANYA

THINK OF ALL THAT WILL BE  
WHEN WE COULD FINALLY  
LEAVE WITH THE BREEZE  
ALL THOSE ENDLESS NIGHTS  
WITH YOU IN MY ARMS  
AND I'M HOLDING YOU TIGHT

*They embrace again.*

*Lights down.*

*11. A Tale of Two Apartments*

*Band*

**Scene Six**

**“Doubt”**

*A split scene. On one side is KIARA's apartment and on the other is TANYA's. Lights up on Kiara's apartment. KIARA and AUSTIN are sitting together on the couch. Austin shakes his knee nervously with a phone in his hand as lights come up on Tanya's apartment. ERICA and TANYA sit together on her couch. Lights will shift between scenes, depending on which characters are speaking.*

KIARA

You ready for this?

AUSTIN

I mean, no. But I'm gonna have to be.

KIARA

Listen, it's gonna be fine. And you've wanted to catch up with her anyway, so you're not technically lying.

AUSTIN

No, but I am omitting the full truth, which still makes it lying.

KIARA



Ugh, don't put it like that, it makes us sound horrible. We're doing this for a reason.

*AUSTIN nods understandably and the lights flicker to ERICA and TANYA.*

TANYA

Can't believe I'm gonna be saying goodbye to this apartment eventually. It's a tiny old thing, but it's mine, you know?

ERICA

I get it. But just wait until we have a place we can finally call 'ours'.

TANYA

*(beaming, dreamily)*

Are we gonna paint the walls together?

ERICA

I wouldn't have it any other way. But you gotta promise to be real steady with the brush. We have to coat it as cleanly as we can so that way it doesn't end up all splotchy and chaotic.

TANYA

That's why I love you. You always help me keep my hands steady.

*Lights switch back to KIARA and AUSTIN, who are now standing downstage.*

KIARA

Three... Two... One//... ugh, Austin.

AUSTIN

//Gah, I can't do it.

KIARA

Alright, I have an idea. *(standing up)* This is something that's always made me work well under pressure. Close your eyes.

*AUSTIN closes his eyes. KIARA sneaks up gently behind him.*

(KIARA)

Take a deeeep breath.

**12. The Thought That Counts*****Austin, Kiara, Coworkers***

*AUSTIN takes a breath in. KIARA presses a few buttons on his phone. His phone is now on speaker and the dial tone sounds. AUSTIN flickers open his eyes and holds the phone out as if it's on fire.*

AUSTIN

*KIARA*, I can't believe you!

KIARA

*(shrugging)* It's always helped me!

*Lights up on the opposite side of the stage. TANYA's ringtone sounds. She answers it.*

AUSTIN

You are the worst, I don't even--

TANYA

*(answering the phone)* Hello?

AUSTIN

H-ey Tanya! How's it going?

TANYA  
*(confused)*

... Good... What's up?

AUSTIN *(awkwardly)*  
I was wondering

KIARA *(sung)*  
I WAS WONDERING

It's just a thought!...  
If you could come over  
And catch up?

IT'S JUST A THOUGHT  
IF YOU COULD COME OVER  
AND CATCH UP?

TANYA

Oh! ... Uh... what's the occasion?

AUSTIN  
... To celebrate... the proposal!

KIARA  
... TO CELEBRATE... THE PROPOSAL!

TANYA

Um... Could you hang on one second?

AUSTIN

Okay!

*She looks over to ERICA, lowering  
her phone.*

TANYA

So, question... Austin wants to invite me over for dinner to catch up and celebrate the engagement...

ERICA  
*(confused)*

That's... interesting... What are you thinking?

TANYA

Maybe I should go? It's been a few years since I last saw him... and I don't think things are weird between us anymore. Would you want to come with me?

ERICA

Honestly, I might wanna pass on this one, being that it's a celebratory dinner with your ex... but hey, if you want to go, that's fine with me.

AUSTIN

Tanya? You still there?

TANYA

*(moving the phone back to her ear)* Yes, yes I'm still here... why not? Sounds like fun.

Cool! How's this Friday?  
AUSTIN

Great!  
TANYA

Six o'clock?  
AUSTIN

Six o'clock?  
TANYA

Six o'clock!  
TANYA, AUSTIN, KIARA

Sounds good. See you then!  
TANYA  
(chuckling)

*The call ends.*

AUSTIN  
SO NOW WE'LL WAIT UNTIL FRIDAY NIGHT

KIARA  
LET'S JUST HOPE WE DON'T PICK A FIGHT

AUSTIN  
WELL, THE TIME HAS COME  
TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT

KIARA, AUSTIN  
AFTER ALL...  
IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS?

COWORKERS  
(walking onstage)

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
 IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
 IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
 IT'S THE THOUGHT...  
 THAT... COUNTS, COUNTS!

*Each light switches off one  
 following the other.  
 Stage begins changing for NSFW.*

### ***13. Return to the Aquarium***

***Band***

#### **Scene Seven**

#### **“NSFW”**

*Another day has passed. We're back at the aquarium. The COWORKERS, including TANYA and ELLIE, are busily chatting amongst themselves. Lights fade up to a blue color. The COWORKERS grab clipboards and move to different sides of the aquarium projections, examining the glass and the fish and checking off things on their lists.*

ELLIE

It was so bad, Tanya, you don't understand. That little girl kept jumping up and down tugging at her mom's skirt yelling "mom look! The turtles are playing together!" and she was so flustered, because obviously they were procreating.

TANYA

*(laughing)* Ellie, 'procreating'?

ELLIE

What? *(as-a-matter-of-fact)* We're in a workspace! That would totally be NSFW.

*They hang their jackets on a coat  
 hook. They sit down at a coffee  
 table and pick up two clipboards  
 resting on the table. They both read  
 down a list.*

ELLIE

Anyway, how has everything been with you? How's the *fiancee*?

TANYA

She's great! We've been slowly looking at wedding stuff together. It's... *way* more work than I thought it'd be. We have a checklist going, though, so it's just the matter of taking everything step by step by step.

*ELLIE looks up from the clipboard.*

ELLIE

Good! Make sure you savor every moment! You gotta remember that you're working hard toward the day when you both will walk down the aisle looking like utter goddesses. Don't be surprised if you see me framing a picture of you two for my own apartment.

TANYA

Anyone would be lucky to have you as their hypewoman, Ellie.

ELLIE

Ugh, stop, you flatter me. But seriously, speaking of the lovely Erica, when the hell are we gonna go out altogether? (*panicked expression*) Unless... wait, does she not like me? Shit, I hope I didn't--

TANYA

--No no no, it is not like that at all. Erica works a *lot* for her company. The girl can go six hours drawing and not realize the sun's gone down. She's also not the partying type like I know we are.

ELLIE

(*relaxing*) Heh, yeah, we are pretty fun. Thank god we met at the ripe age of twenty one. I had like no one to party with until I met you.

TANYA

Same here! I promise I'll try to set up a time for you guys to meet. Erica really does like you.

ELLIE

(*relieved*)

Oh, goodie. I know sometimes I can be... a little bit a lot.

TANYA

(*chuckling*) You're perfectly enough.

*They both 'aww' and intertwine one of their hands together, raising*

*them up. MASON walks over and looks at them.*

MASON

While this is, “cute” and stuff, make sure you have everything to do on that list checked off before opening.

*He fights back a smile and walks away from them.*

TANYA

We will, Mason!

ELLIE

You’re the best, Mason!

#### *14. Snell’s Window*

*Tanya, Ellie, Mason, Georgia, Coworkers*

*MASON shakes his head and exits. TANYA and ELLIE get up from their chairs and the ripple light shines down on ALL.*

TANYA

TO FEEL THE RUSH  
ALL AROUND

ELLIE

WHEN YOU’RE BENEATH  
THE OCEAN SOUND

TANYA

YOU FEEL INTRIGUED  
TO EXPLORE

ELLIE

WHAT IS ON THE OCEAN FLOOR

TANYA

WHEN I SWIM THROUGH ALL THE BUBBLES

MY HEART STARTS RACING

ELLIE

AND IT FEELS AMAZING

TANYA

I LOOK UP AT THE SURFACE

ELLIE

LIKE IT'S A WINDOW IN MY HOME

IT'S A RUSH OF WATER COLORS  
THAT LOOK UNLIKE ANY OTHER

*They join hands.*

TANYA

COME, SWIM AWAY WITH ME NOW

LET THE WATER CONNECT WITH YOU

ALL AROUND

ELLIE

THERE'S A STRANGE AND APPEALING PHENOMENON

THAT ONLY OCCURS WITH A PHYSICAL LAW

ALL

IT'S SNELL'S WINDOW!

SOLOS 1 & 2

A REFRACTION OF LIGHT

IN A CIRCLE

ALL

SNELL'S WINDOW!

SOLOS 3 & 4

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL VIEW

THROUGH AN OPTICAL HALO

TANYA

DOESN'T IT LOOK

FASCINATING?

ELLIE

I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMETHING



SO CAPTIVATING

MASON

WHAT WAS ONCE SUBDUED  
NOW REJUVENATING

GEORGIA

IT'S JUST SO DAMN...  
INTOXICATING

*(spoken)*

Well... not... not for the fish-

TANYA

THERE'S A WONDERFUL FEELING  
I CAN'T DESCRIBE  
WHEN YOU'RE SWIMMING ALONE  
ON A DEEP, BLUE DIVE

TANYA, ELLIE

I CAN LOSE MYSELF  
GETTING WHISKED BY THE WAVES  
AND WHEN THEY COME CLOSE  
IT'S THE HARDEST TO FACE

TANYA

LET THE WATER MIRROR YOU  
EVERY MOVEMENT IS FLUID

ELLIE

THERE'S NOT MUCH ELSE TO IT

TANYA, ELLIE

THE LIGHT IS SHINING UPON THE HORIZON  
THE ANGLES ALIGN TO ENLIVEN AND BRIGHTEN OUR

ALL

SNELL'S WINDOW!

TANYA, ELLIE

AN AMBIGUOUS LIGHT

IN A WHIRLPOOL

ALL

SNELL'S WINDOW!  
SURROUNDED BY SHADOWS  
AND COLORFUL SEA JEWELS

*(Instrumental dance break)*

TANYA

*(to herself, not heard by others)*

THIS PLACE IS SOMETHING SO SACRED TO ME  
IF ONLY SHE'D VISIT BEFORE WE LEAVE  
CAUSE MY REFLECTION IN THE WATER IS CLEAR AS DAY  
AS IF THERE'S SOMETHING LOOMING OVER ME  
WILLING MY STAY

ALL

*(staggered entrances)*

SNELL'S WINDOW  
A REFRACTION OF LIGHT IN A CIRCLE  
SNELL'S WINDOW  
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL VIEW THROUGH AN OPTICAL HALO  
SNELL'S WINDOW  
A REFRACTION OF LIGHT IN A CIRCLE  
SNELL'S WINDOW

ALL

*(together)*

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL VIEW  
THROUGH AN OPTICAL HALO

SNELL'S WINDOW!  
AN AMBIGUOUS LIGHT  
IN A WHIRLPOOL

SNELL'S WINDOW!  
SURROUNDED BY SHADOWS  
AND COLORFUL SEA JEWELS

SNELL'S WINDOW!

*Lights down.*

***15. Austin's Apartment***

***Band***

**Scene Eight**

**“Anger”**

*The next day. AUSTIN'S apartment. AUSTIN is rushing around making sure everything on the table is set properly. KIARA enters and watches him scurry around anxiously.*

KIARA

Are you good?

AUSTIN

Uh, not really.

*He switches around the silverware set up and switches it back. This happens a few times. KIARA walks over and stops him from changing it again.*

KIARA

I'm the one who's on bad terms with her, and you're the anxious one?

AUSTIN

Well it won't be long until she hates me too!

KIARA

Ouch. Pretty harsh, Austin.

*AUSTIN faces her guiltily.*

AUSTIN

Sorry. She'll probably be here like any minute now.

*A knock is heard. They both look at each other worriedly.*

Or she's here now.

(AUSTIN)

*He walks offstage to answer the door and KIARA backs up, trying to make herself look as small as possible. AUSTIN enters walking backwards toward the room. TANYA enters.*

AUSTIN

Hey, Tanya! What's up?

TANYA

Hey! Everything's been--

*TANYA and KIARA lock eyes. TANYA looks down to KIARA's baby bump.*

Fine.

KIARA

Hi...

TANYA  
(coldly)

What are you doing here? (to AUSTIN) What is she doing here? // Was this a set up?

AUSTIN

// Please don't get angry.

TANYA

Wow. My ex-boyfriend and my sister all in one room. Must be my lucky day. I'm leaving.

*She whirls around and heads to exit.*

AUSTIN

Wait, no, please don't leave, Tanya.

*TANYA sharply turns back around, almost knocking into AUSTIN.*

TANYA

How could you set me up like this? I've told you this once before, you can't just go around trying to fix everything.

AUSTIN

I know, and that's not what I'm trying to do this time, she just wants you to hear her out.

*She takes a breath. A BEAT.*

Will you stay?

*TANYA thinks on this for a moment.*

TANYA

... Fine.

*TANYA walks to the table silently. AUSTIN joins her. The two sit down together awkwardly while AUSTIN brings a salad serving dish over to the table.*

KIARA

Thanks for staying.

TANYA

I'm not just doing this for you.

*KIARA looks down, trying to find words.*

*(somber)*

So, you're... pregnant.

KIARA

*(contently)*

*(resting a hand on her stomach)* Yeah, about five months now. It's a girl. I'm naming her Amelia.

*TANYA doesn't respond. AUSTIN pours water into their glasses.*

TANYA

Thank you.

KIARA

It's been a year, Tanya. Can you at least hear me out?

*TANYA ignores the question. AUSTIN joins them at the table. They begin serving themselves quietly. KIARA looks for another way to strike up a conversation.*

KIARA

How's work?

TANYA

*(not looking up)*

Fine.

KIARA

I heard you got promoted.

*TANYA looks up at her questionably.*

I saw it online, and thought I'd congratulate you. I know how much you wanted that position.

TANYA

*(dismissively)*

You really don't need to pretend like you care.

KIARA

Just out of curiosity, Tanya, what makes you think that I'm pretending to care?

*TANYA rests her fork down.*

TANYA

So you wanna talk about this now, then?

KIARA

*(hint of annoyance)*

I'd actually love to, given we haven't spoken in a year.

*AUSTIN sinks in his seat, silently watching the two throw down.*

TANYA

And why do you think we haven't spoken in a year?

KIARA

I don't know, Tanya, maybe it has something to do with the fact that you haven't been returning any of my phone calls.

*TANYA stands up, her chair kicking back.*

**16. To Forgive, But Not Forget**

***Tanya, Kiara***

TANYA

YOU CAN GO AND PRETEND YOU CARE  
ALL YOU WANT  
BUT YOU ACT SO UNAWARE  
LIKE THE FAULT'S NOT ALL YOUR OWN

YOU COULD EITHER GO AND BE UPFRONT  
SO THAT WAY I CAN TAKE THE BRUNT  
OR YOU CAN DROP THE ACT  
AND JUST GO HOME

KIARA

I DON'T EVEN KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE REFERRING TO  
WHAT WOULD EVEN BE THE PURPOSE  
OF ME LYING TO YOU?

ALL I'VE EVER WANTED  
WAS TO HAVE YOU IN MY LIFE

'CAUSE I DON'T WANT TO ARGUE  
NO, I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT

TANYA, KIARA  
TO FORGIVE, BUT NOT FORGET  
YOU'RE NOT SOMEONE THAT I HAVEN'T MET

KIARA  
WHEN I LEFT OUR HOME  
I DIDN'T PLAN TO DISOWN  
THE ONLY SISTER I EVER HAD

I WAS CORNERED WITH A THREAT  
FROM OUR PARENTS WHO WERE UPSET  
AND IF I SPOKE OUT OF TURN  
I'D PAY THE DEBT

TANYA  
AND NOW MONTHS DOWN THE ROAD  
UNDER NO DEBT OR "CONTROL"  
IT'S ONLY NOW YOU TRY TO MAKE AMENDS?

TO GET ONE THING STRAIGHT  
SO WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY  
IS THAT THEY ARE ONES WHO MADE THE WEDGE?

KIARA  
NO! WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS THAT SHE-

*She stops herself.*

KIARA  
Is that they're... *Ugh!* I just... I never meant to abandon you, Tanya. After a while, I was just... nervous living at home. It was really bad between me and mom. But I didn't leave because of you.

TANYA  
Nervous? Why didn't either of you tell me what was going on? And even now, why won't you?

KIARA



It's just not... as simple as that. Mom was already going through a lot after dad got sick and I just... didn't want to burden you.

TANYA

I'm not made out of glass, Kiara. You made more than sure you didn't burden me, you're practically a stranger to me now. But, I'm sure Austin already brought you up to speed with the engagement and my move with Erica.

KIARA

He did.

TANYA

And? Any two cents you need to throw in about that?

KIARA

You didn't *seem* like you wanted to talk in the first place, Tanya! (*frustrated*) God, all I've ever wanted to do was be honest with you!

*KIARA opens her mouth to say more, hesitating. TANYA impatiently waits.*

TANYA

*What, then? Just say it. (longer pause, keeping her composure)* Kiara, just tell me.

KIARA

*(hesitating)*

I... I just... I can't.

*TANYA shakes her head, gathering her things and standing up.*

TANYA

Thank you for having me, Austin. And thank you Kiara, for yet another year where I have to ask myself if my sister actually gives a damn about me and accepts me for the person I am.

KIARA

It's *not* like that.

TANYA

Then *tell me* Kiara, what is it like?

*KIARA struggles to find the words.  
TANYA begins to leave again.*

KIARA

Wait. I want you to know that I love you... and I really do care. And I know that you don't trust me enough right now to believe that and before you walk out through that door, I wanted to tell you that I want you to be in my life for this. *(resting a hand on her stomach)* I want you to know her, I want her to know you. I can't picture you not being a part of these last few months. I want her to know how important it is for sisters to be there for each other, despite when they're not always seeing eye to eye.

*A BEAT.*

*TANYA turns around to face  
KIARA.*

TANYA

This is more than us not seeing eye to eye. This is our lives. *My* life. And you have yet to give me a reason why you don't like my fiance when she's been nothing but nice to you in the past. So when your daughter is born and old enough to speak, you can tell her that you *had* a sister.

*A BEAT.*

*She exits. AUSTIN walks over and comforts KIARA, who sits back down on the chair and rubs her stomach.*

AUSTIN

*(raising fork)*... This is really good.

*Lights down.*

***17. Erica's Apartment***

***Band***

### **Scene Nine**

### **“Vulnerability”**

*ERICA's apartment. TANYA, in distress, knocks and opens the door, entering inside.*

TANYA  
(calling out)

Erica?

*She plops herself down on the couch, rubbing her temples. No response.*

(repeating)

Erica?

*ERICA enters from the opposite side of the stage in a beautiful sundress. She looks full of life.*

ERICA

Hi, Sunshine! What a nice surprise.

*TANYA runs up to her and hugs her tightly. ERICA, confused, reciprocates the hug.*

Hey hey, what's going on? You have a corset-tight grip on me right now.

TANYA

I should've listened to you. I'm sorry.

ERICA

About what? *(looking at TANYA directly)* Is this about the dinner at Austin's?

TANYA  
(upset)

Yeah, and for some reason, my sister was there, too. You're right, Erica, I think we only broke whatever was salvageable between us.

*ERICA caresses TANYA's back, her face in thought.*

ERICA

Kiara was there? I'm surprised you even stayed as long as you did.

TANYA

I just thought I could mend something... anything! There's just something she isn't telling me.

ERICA

Maybe she's saving you the stress, or the therapy for that matter. I'm sure whatever it was, it wasn't worth talking about. And speaking of stress...

*She holds TANYA's hand, making her twirl in an attempt to cheer her up.*

Let me try and clear your mind of it, okay?

TANYA

I could use that.

**18. Slow Dance (Senseless)**

**Band**

*ERICA pulls her close and they slow dance against one another.*

ERICA

Not to stress your brain out again or anything... But I've been doing some thinking about our moving plans.

TANYA

So have I, actually. I think we should move up our moving date, and I know that sounds scary, but I just really want us to start the lives we've been dreaming about already.

*ERICA smiles widely, beaming with excitement.*

ERICA

It's like you've read my mind. I'd marry you tomorrow if I could.

TANYA

Hey, well, while we're on the topic of that, the idea of eloping doesn't sound too bad.

ERICA

*(surprised)*

Who are you and what have you done with my fiance?

*They share a kiss. TANYA giggles excitedly.*

(ERICA)

Definitely noted.

TANYA

I gotta talk to work about moving soon, so that's gonna be an interesting conversation. I'm a little nervous about how she's gonna take it.

ERICA

Who, your boss?

TANYA

No, Ellie. I'm actually less afraid to speak to Mason about it. Ellie, on the other hand, is a whole different story.

ERICA

I'm sure she'll grow to understand. She loves you just as much as the rest of them do. Just like I do, but more.

***19. Where Do We Go From Here? (Act 1 Finale)***

***Erica, Tanya, Company***

*The lights in the room are mainly pointing to ERICA and TANYA; almost signifying the room getting smaller, TANYA's mind becoming more and more isolated in her thoughts.*

ERICA

ALL I KNOW IS  
I WANT TO BE ALL YOURS  
DANCING AROUND  
ON OUR NEW BEDROOM FLOORS  
WE'LL LET IN THE SUNLIGHT  
THAT WARMS US BOTH  
CREATING NEW STORIES  
WE'LL TELL WHEN WE'RE OLD

TANYA

SO, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

ERICA

YOU'RE ALL THAT I'VE DREAMED OF  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?

TANYA

I CAN'T WAIT  
TILL I LIFT YOUR WEDDING VEIL

ENSEMBLE

AHH

TANYA

AND YOU HOLD ME CLOSE  
AS THEY CHIME OUR WEDDING BELLS

ENSEMBLE

WEDDING BELLS, WEDDING BELLS  
WEDDING BELLS

TANYA

WE'LL WATCH AS THE SUN  
STARTS GOING DOWN  
WITH THE STARS IN THE SKY  
LIGHTING UP ALL AROUND

TANYA, ERICA

SO, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

ENSEMBLE

OOH  
OOH, OOH

YOU'RE ALL THAT I'VE ASKED FOR  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?

AHH

ENSEMBLE

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
ONLY YOU, NOTHING MORE  
BE WITH ME ALWAYS

TANYA, ERICA

ONLY YOU, NOTHING MORE  
BE WITH ME

ALL

THAT'S ALL THAT I ASK FOR

LET'S MOVE ON TO A NEW LIFE

THERE'S SO MUCH TO EXPLORE (TO EXPLORE, TO EXPLORE)

ONLY JUST GETTING STARTED

WHO CAN ASK...

FOR MORE?

*BLACKOUT.*

*END OF ACT ONE.*

**ACT TWO***BEFORE CURTAIN / LIGHTS***20. Entr'acte****Band****Scene One****“Resistance”**

*A week later. A bench in an outdoor Aquarium Rest Area. ELLIE and TANYA enter together wearing winter clothing and holding coffee cups.*

ELLIE

God, sometimes I despise that big *fish bowl* during the holidays. If I have to tell one more kid to quit knocking on those tanks...

TANYA

“Fish-bowl?”

ELLIE

Speaking in code? We’re still in the (*gesturing around the space*) vicinity of our job.

TANYA

Ellie, we’re like two blocks away.

ELLIE

Listen, ever since that member told Mason she saw me at the Vineyard Wine Tasting event the day I was supposed to be working, I trust *no one*.

*They sit down on the bench.*

TANYA

So there’s something I’ve wanted to talk to you about.

ELLIE

*(humorously)*

What’s up, buttercup?

TANYA

It’s kinda serious.



ELLIE

Okay... what's going on?

TANYA

I... um, so... Erica and I have actually decided to elope.

ELLIE

Oh! Really?

TANYA

Yeah, we just felt like it made more sense.

ELLIE

That's...totally valid. That'll also save you *tons* of money. Plus, it'll bring you closer to the honeymoon! We'll just celebrate at some point with a wine-night at your place or something!

TANYA

*(nervously)*

Mhm... Actually, no, there is something else.

ELLIE

Tanya, you can talk to me, it's okay.

TANYA

Erica and I have decided to move... to Texas.

*ELLIE blinks, taking a moment to process TANYA's revelation.*

ELLIE

Oh. I'm a little confused, what about the promotion?

TANYA

I haven't exactly spoken to Mason about it. I took that offer literally right before the proposal happened.

ELLIE

Okay, um... are you sure this is what you want?

TANYA

Yeah, it is... *(confused)* I thought you'd be happier about this. Weren't you the one who told me to see more of the world? Get out of my comfort zone?

ELLIE

Of course, but I meant traveling to exotic countries for your personal growth and mental health, but hold on, okay, wait, when would you be moving?

TANYA

Most likely by the end of the month.

ELLIE

*(surprised)*

-End of the month? Do you have another job lined up there?

TANYA

Not yet--why are you interrogating me like you're my mother?

ELLIE

I'm not trying to, Tanya, but it kinda feels sorta sudden! Don't you agree?

TANYA

*(waving her off)* Love doesn't have a set timeline.

ELLIE

Look, I'm not trying to tell you what to do because you're your own woman and I respect and love you, but I just don't think you're fully thinking this through. We're still so young! And--

*TANYA stands up from the bench, shaking her head.*

TANYA

Okay, great! Thanks for the insight, Ellie. You know, I thought out of all people, you'd be excited about this.

*ELLIE also stands up.*

ELLIE

I am! I mean I-I would be, but I don't want to lie to you, Tanya.

TANYA

I almost wish you had.

*A BEAT.*

ELLIE  
*(frustrated)*

Well, I'm sorry you feel that way.

*TANYA turns and exits. ELLIE sits back down on the bench, defeated.*

*Lights down.*

**21. Dead to Her**

**Band**

**Scene Two**

**“Physical Symptoms”**

*Lights up on Kiara's living room. KIARA and AUSTIN enter and sit down on the couch. KIARA holds a pint of Ben & Jerry's in her hand.*

KIARA  
*(dejectedly)*

Well, it's official. I'm dead to her.

AUSTIN

Kiara--

KIARA

No, you heard her. She wants nothing to do with me now.

AUSTIN

Why couldn't you say it?

*A BEAT.*

*KIARA contemplates this for a moment.*

KIARA

Because I knew that either way, if I told her or not, I was gonna lose her. I was selfish. I finally get to see her for the first time in a year and I was selfish.

AUSTIN

Listen, we both know this is far more complicated than you disliking Erica. It's not easy to tell anyone about this kind of thing. It's hard to even get the words out, so don't be so hard on yourself. All I know is that we can't give up on this, even if she slams the door in our faces. *(standing up, picking up his mug)* I lost her once, and I don't think I'm ready to do that again.

*KIARA looks up to AUSTIN.*

KIARA

Austin, do you still...are you still in love with her?

*A pause.*

*AUSTIN eventually clears his throat, not meeting her eyes.*

AUSTIN

*(shaking his head)* That's not what this is about. We owe her the truth.

KIARA

I don't think she wants to hear from me. Even if I did try to talk to her again, she wouldn't listen to a word I'd say.

*She winces, clutching her stomach.  
AUSTIN sits back down on the couch.*

AUSTIN

Hey, hey, are you alright?

KIARA

*(relaxing)*

Yeah, I'm okay, just felt a little cramp. I've been having them over the past few days.

AUSTIN

Look, if this situation has been stressing you out to this point, I don't want you to put yourself through this anymore.

KIARA

*(upset)*

I want to work things out with her, I really do... but between the stress of this and carrying a baby, my energy just...drains so often.

AUSTIN

I have another idea. I'm gonna try and talk to her myself this time. And I'll keep you posted from there, okay?

*He picks up his jacket and puts it on.*

KIARA

And if by chance this doesn't work, Austin, I really appreciate you trying. I know it doesn't seem so, but she is lucky to have you in her life, for what it's worth.

AUSTIN

Thanks, Kiara.

*He exits. KIARA rubs her stomach and lays back on the couch.*

**22. Dear Amelia**

**Kiara**

KIARA

I CAN PLAY IT STRONG  
AND HOLD MY CHIN UP HIGH  
WHATEVER IT TAKES  
TO MOVE ALONG  
I CAN BITE MY TONGUE  
REFUSE TO CRY  
CONVINCE MYSELF  
THAT I'LL BE FINE

IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO SAY THAT I NEED  
SOMEONE TO CONFIDE IN, TOO  
BUT I'M NOT ALONE

DEAR AMELIA  
SOMEDAY, WE'LL COME TO KNOW  
YOU('VE) GOT ALL MY LOVE

ENOUGH TO FILL TWO HEARTS  
OH, DON'T GROW UP TOO FAST  
AS THE YEARS COME FLYING PAST  
JUST HOLD ON TO THESE WORDS  
WHEN WE'RE APART

ONCE YOU LEARN THAT LIFE  
IS NOT ALWAYS THE KINDEST  
YOU MIGHT DO WHATEVER IT TAKES  
TO MAKE WRONGS RIGHT  
BUT IF YOU COME TO FIND  
THAT TIME'S NOT ON YOUR SIDE  
I CAN BE THERE WHEN YOU NEED  
A GUIDING LIGHT

DEAR AMELIA  
SOMEDAY, YOU'LL COME TO REALIZE  
WHAT I DREAM OF  
IS A CHANCE TO MEND TWO HEARTS  
OH, BUT AS MUCH AS I ASK  
SHE CAN NEVER SEEM TO GET PAST  
THE LIES THAT WERE TOLD FROM THE START

I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT HERE TO SEE  
YOUR MOM'S FLOWING TEARS, THEY FALL SO EASILY  
BUT IT'S TIME TO PICK UP THE THREADS  
'CAUSE I CAN'T LET WORDS GO UNSAID

DEAR AMELIA  
SOMEDAY, THERE'LL BE A MOMENT  
TO REMEMBER THE LOVE  
THAT'S GROWN WITHIN YOUR HEART  
OH, BUT LET YOUR YOUTH LAST  
AS THE YEARS WILL COME TO PASS  
AND HOLD ON TO THESE WORDS...  
WHEN WE'RE APART

*Lights fade down. KIARA exits.*

**Scene Three****“Mourning”**

*Lights up on a park bench. ELLIE enters and sits down on it with a coffee cup and a snack on her lap. She is visibly upset. AUSTIN enters, slowly crossing the stage and oblivious to ELLIE, who notices him. She starts to cry from the reminder of TANYA and to also grab his attention. AUSTIN looks back and notices her.*

AUSTIN

Ellie?

*ELLIE's crying subsides momentarily, wiping her face.*

ELLIE

Austin? Is that you?

AUSTIN

Hey! Yeah, it's me, how are you?

ELLIE  
*(helplessly)*

Could be better. What're you doing around here?

AUSTIN

I've been actually trying to find where Tanya is, so I came around the area to check if she's work--

*ELLIE lets out another sob, taking out a tissue from her pocket and drying her face.*

Ellie, what's going on?

ELLIE

I think Tanya broke up with me.

AUSTIN

What?

*He joins her on the bench.*

(AUSTIN)

What do you mean?

ELLIE

We had a fight recently, and now she's leaving me!

AUSTIN

She's engaged, Ellie.

ELLIE

*(hurt)*

You should never underestimate the power of friendship, Austin.

AUSTIN

Okay, what happened?

ELLIE

So she told me she got engaged a few weeks ago, and the Tanya I know *loves* weddings; the wedding dress, the bouquet, the vows, all of it, you know? But she sat me down recently and told me that not only is she *eloping*--

AUSTIN

--eloping?

ELLIE

--But she's also moving by the end of this month! I just--I can't lie to her, so I ask her if she's really thought this through and all, because she just got her promotion and I barely even know her fiance, and she gets all angry at me and calls me unsupportive and that she would've rather me have lied to her.

*ELLIE cries again. AUSTIN caresses her shoulder.*

AUSTIN

By the end of the month?

ELLIE

I can hardly believe it myself.

AUSTIN



(AUSTIN)  
*(to himself)*

No, this is bad.

ELLIE

It's just really hard to process it all. Maybe I should be more supportive that she's building her own future—

AUSTIN

No, she really can't, though. At least, not like this...

*ELLIE looks over to AUSTIN quizzically.*

ELLIE

What do you mean? Is there something wrong?

AUSTIN

I just, um, don't want her to be making a mistake. Signing a lease is a big step.

ELLIE

Have you met Erica?

*AUSTIN pauses for a moment, and nods.*

AUSTIN

Yeah, I have, when we were in college together.

ELLIE

What is she like? I've only seen her in pictures.

AUSTIN

She's an artist. She worked a lot when I was in school, so I really don't know how she managed to graduate. All I know is that even when Tanya and I were together, Tanya was awestruck at the near mentions of her. Some hold Erica had on her, that's for sure. But she's charming, beautiful, and a person that's easy to fall in love with, I guess.

ELLIE

Wow. I bet she's really something.

*ELLIE sniffles, wiping her face again with a tissue.*

(ELLIE)

Anyway, I hope you catch up with her. Is it still weird between you guys?

*AUSTIN stands up, tying his shoes busily.*

AUSTIN

No, not anymore.

ELLIE

When you see her, can you tell her... never mind. I don't think I'm sorry.

AUSTIN

*(nodding his head)*

I understand. I'm gonna try to talk to her about this.

ELLIE

Good luck.

*He exits. Lights down. ELLIE exits a moment later.*

## ***24. Erica's Apartment II***

***Band***

### **Scene Four**

#### **“Reminisce”**

*Lights up on ERICA's apartment. TANYA and ERICA enter and go through different boxes, placing tiny items inside and packing them up. The lights should look a little more minimal on stage than normal. TANYA is on the phone.*

TANYA

*(on the phone)*

You've already given us so much already, mom. *(chuckling)* As long as you don't turn my old bedroom into a gym room once the rest of my storage is out, I'll visit you when I can! I can't wait until you see the place. Alright, I'll talk to you later.. Love you.

*She hangs up.*

ERICA

When should we call to book the movers?

TANYA

I'll probably give them a call next week.

ERICA

And the security deposit for our apartment?

TANYA

Also in a few weeks.

*She pauses packing and smiles over at ERICA, who is taping up a box. ERICA notices her staring.*

ERICA

*(teasingly)*

Why're you looking at me all smiley?

TANYA

Just the words "our apartment". Something that's ours, half yours, half mine.

ERICA

What's mine is yours, Love. *(standing up and looking around)* Look at this place! It's really emptying out. It's... so weird.

*TANYA stands up to join her, wrapping her arms around ERICA from behind.*

TANYA

I know. I'm sure you're gonna miss it. I know I will.

ERICA

Remember when I first got it? The movers weren't gonna deliver my furniture until a few days later that week, and you and I sat on the floor eating takeout like animals.

TANYA

Listen, eating Thai food on this living room floor really hits different.

ERICA

Speaking of, we've been at this for a couple hours and I know you're hungry. Whaddya say I go grab us takeout?

TANYA

*(smiling)*

Sounds like a plan to me.

ERICA

Amaaazing! I'll be right back then.

*She grabs her coat from the hook as TANYA opens the door for her.*

TANYA

I'll miss you!

*ERICA giggles and kisses her on the cheek. She exits. TANYA returns to the boxes and resumes taping one carefully. After a few moments, another knock is at the door. TANYA smiles and gets up expectantly.*

I knew you'd forget some--

*She swings open the door. It's AUSTIN.*

Oh. You shouldn't be here.

*She tries to close the door, but he gently keeps it in its place.*

AUSTIN

Please don't slam the door in my face.

TANYA

*(upset)*

You set me up. How could you do that to me?

AUSTIN

Could I come in?

*She wordlessly agrees and slowly walks away from the door. AUSTIN enters, glancing around at the amount of boxes.*

TANYA

I should be slamming the door in your face.

AUSTIN

Well, I'm glad you're not. I ran into Ellie yesterday, and she told me you're eloping and moving later this month?

*A pause. She sighs.*

TANYA

This place isn't for me anymore. I might've grown up here, but it's time for new beginnings. And I'm tired of people making me feel bad about it!

AUSTIN

I didn't come here to try and convince you to stay. I didn't even know if I was gonna end up coming at all, but I don't think I've seen Ellie that upset before. I don't think I've ever seen you two in an argument.

TANYA

Because we don't.

AUSTIN

I'm not trying to overstep, but why are you in a hurry to leave?

TANYA

There isn't much left for me here! I've been in Philly all my life. I should be branching out and exploring. Erica might've found me some amazing job opportunities out there. This is something we both want.

AUSTIN

But is this something *you've* always wanted? I've always known that Erica wanted to move around because of her career, but you've always seemed content right where you are. I'm not trying to tell you how to live your life, but—

TANYA

—Look, you haven't been in my life in a few years. I'm not the same person I used to be. Dreams can change, Austin. Anyway, it's not like you'd understand. Not Ellie, not you, not Kiara, nobody. My mom and Erica are the only people who support this.

*25. I'm Still Here*

*Austin, Tanya*

*She sits down on the couch,  
covering her face in her hands.  
AUSTIN sits down along with her.*

AUSTIN

I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK  
THERE ISN'T ANYONE IN YOUR CORNER  
'CAUSE NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO  
I'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR SUPPORTER

REMEMBER US RUNNING  
THROUGH THE ORCHARDS  
WATCHING YOU RUN  
NEVER COMING UNDONE  
YOU SAID THAT LIVING FAR WAS TORTURE

THAT AS MUCH AS YOU'D RUN  
ONE DAY YOU'D COME  
HOME WHEN YOU'RE DONE  
AND I'D SAY

I'M STILL HERE  
RIGHT WHERE YOU LAST SAW ME, NOW  
I'M STILL HERE  
TO CALM ALL THE NOISES  
IF THEY'RE TOO LOUD

WHEN THE WALLS ARE CLOSING IN  
 'CAUSE YOU'VE TRAPPED YOURSELF  
 AND YOU NEED SOME HELP  
 I KNOW HOW HARD THAT'S BEEN  
 WHEN NO ONE UNDERSTANDS  
 AND YOU NEED A HAND

AUSTIN, TANYA  
 IT WAS JUST LIKE YESTERDAY

AUSTIN  
 TELLING JOKES ABOUT  
 OUR LIVES SOMEDAY

AUSTIN, TANYA  
 WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT  
 WE'D BE HERE NOW?

TANYA  
 JUST GROWING UP  
 SOMEWHERE, SOMEHOW

AUSTIN  
 WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS  
 AND YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN  
 YOU COULD GATHER YOUR THINGS  
 AND COME BACK HOME

TANYA  
 WHILE IT'S EXCITING TO START UP  
 SOMEWHERE NEW  
 I WONDER IF I SHOULDN'T  
 LEAVE SO SOON

AUSTIN  
 I'M STILL HERE  
 RIGHT WHERE YOU LAST SAW ME, NOW  
 I'M STILL HERE  
 TO SMOOTH ALL THE EDGES

TANYA  
 YOU'RE STILL HERE  
 YOU'RE STILL HERE

AUSTIN, TANYA

THAT ARE WORN OUT

AUSTIN  
 I'M STILL HERE  
 TO CALM ALL THE NOISES  
 IF THEY'RE TOO LOUD  
 I'M STILL HERE  
 I'LL BE THERE IN A HEARTBEAT

TANYA  
 WHEN DID YESTERDAY'S  
 ADVENTURES  
 BECOME A DISTANT MEMORY?  
 IN A HEARTBEAT

*AUSTIN leans closer to TANYA,  
 nearly kissing her before she  
 moves back.*

TANYA  
*(taken aback)*

What are you doing?

AUSTIN

I'm sorry, Tanya, seriously, I don't--

*TANYA stands up off the couch.  
 AUSTIN joins her reluctantly.*

TANYA

Is that why you came here? What, you thought you could somehow convince me this way by sabotaging my relationship?

AUSTIN

No, I swear I had no intentions of // doing that.

*TANYA backs him up to the door.*

TANYA

// Get out. Leave!

*Pause.*

AUSTIN

Goodbye, Tanya.



*He exits. She slams the door behind him. She wipes tears off her face and sits down on the couch. Moments later, a knock is heard at the door. TANYA gathers her composure and walks back to the door.*

*She swings it open to ERICA, holding a bag of takeout.*

ERICA

Hey Love! (*noticing a change in her demeanor*) are you alright?

*TANYA hugs her tightly. ERICA hugs her back in confusion.*

What's going on?

TANYA

I thought things could work one last time with Kiara, and I even thought Ellie would be on board! But no one seems to be happy about this. Why isn't anyone happy?

ERICA

They're probably not used to you leaving the nest. They might've gotten used to you always being there for them, you know? (*pulling away gently, caressing her shoulders*) You shouldn't have to feel this way.

TANYA

No, you're right, I shouldn't. (*after a thought*) We shouldn't wait anymore. Let's just get married and get out of here.

*TANYA tugs on ERICA's hand, but she stays in place, shaking her head.*

ERICA

Hey, hey, woah, let's not get too far ahead of ourselves, okay? There's nothing more I'd rather do myself, but you still have to take care of the rest of your chapter here, okay? Go talk to Mason, and then, before you know it, we'll be moving in together.

TANYA

*(sighing in relief)* I'll be counting down the days.

*ERICA kisses her forehead. TANYA stands up after a moment, shaking her nerves.*

ERICA

It won't feel too far away. I think for Ellie, this is the first time she's ever seen you take a big step like this in your life. I'm sure at some point, she'll come around to understanding.

TANYA

I hope so. She just seemed really upset.

ERICA

It's probably the initial shock of it all. You've got a lot going on lately, missus.

TANYA

*(convincing herself)*

Yeah... You're right. I should just start heading there now. I really hope Mason takes it well.

*ERICA stands up, holding her hands.*

ERICA

You've got this. The hardest parts are gonna be over soon.

*TANYA squeezes her hands before exiting. Lights down.*

**26. Mason's Office**

**Band**

### **Scene Five**

#### **"Numb"**

*Lights up on the aquarium. MASON enters and sits at his desk, working on a laptop. A knock on the door. He pauses his work and looks up expectantly. COWORKERS are facing the projection, some with clipboards, others observing.*

MASON

Come in.

*TANYA enters, reluctantly walking over to his desk. MASON notices her behavior.*

I don't bite, you know. Take a seat, Tanya.

*TANYA takes a seat and takes a few breaths to calm her nerves.*

Tanya, are you alright?

TANYA

Yeah, I'm okay. Thank you for letting us meet today.

MASON

Of course, you sounded pretty serious over the phone.

TANYA

Yeah, it's pretty serious... wow, this is harder than I thought it'd be. So, as you know, I got engaged recently, and so things have been pretty crazy but exciting. But we also decided to move away to Texas after we're married, likely by the end of this month.

MASON

*(not looking up from his laptop)*

Oh, I see.

TANYA

I haven't heard back yet from the other places I've applied to, but I just thought you should know before I gave my two weeks out of the blue.

MASON

*(locking eyes with her)* And this is what you really want?

ENSEMBLE  
*(overlapping, softly)*

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
 THE WATER SEEMS  
 CRYSTAL CLEAR  
 (4X)

NO MORE FEAR  
 BEYOND THIS SCREEN  
 I COULD DISAPPEAR  
 (3X)

TANYA

... Of course it is. Why wouldn't it be something I wanted to do?

MASON

I was just asking.

TANYA

*(anxiously)*

There could be dozens of opportunities there just waiting for me, you know? I've been thinking to myself for a while, Tanya, it's time to start anew. I've loved working here, Mason, trust me. It's shaped me into the person I am today, and I'll forever be grateful for this place. I've already looked into a few non-profit aquariums and I really feel like it'll do me well. I just love her, and I want to be with her.

*MASON clicks a pen in his hand,  
 nodding his head.*

MASON

Let me ask you something Tanya. Are you doing this for you, or for her?

TANYA

... For me. I know I'm ready.

MASON

I'm not gonna fight for you to stay here. After three years of knowing you and all of your capabilities, I've come to trust your judgment. I've always known you to be intelligent and caring, and frankly, the most qualified aquarist here, but don't go telling Rob I said that, he's highly emotional.

TANYA

Thank you Mason.

MASON

Wherever that next place is, they will be lucky to have you there. And don't forget, if you ever need anything, you have me on speed dial, okay?

TANYA

Maybe not speed dial, but—

MASON

Hm?

TANYA  
*(nodding)*

Of course. Thank you, Mason.

*ELLIE enters, immediately taking notice of TANYA. ENSEMBLE fades down.*

ELLIE

Sorry I'm early, Mason.

MASON

*(typing on his laptop)* You don't need to apologize for that.

*ELLIE and TANYA continue to awkwardly stand opposite each other. MASON looks at the two before closing his laptop.*

Well... I'll be continuing my work in the back office. Call if you need me.

*He exits. Eventually, TANYA begins to silently walk out.*

ELLIE

So why're you here today? You don't work this shift.

*She stops walking and sighs.  
Turning to ELLIE, she braces  
herself.*

TANYA

I, um, told Mason. I'm putting in my two weeks next week.

*The words make ELLIE grimace,  
but she tries to remain neutral.*

ELLIE

How did he take it?

TANYA

Better than anyone else had.

ELLIE

I'm surprised.

TANYA

I guess so.

*Bothered enough, ELLIE faces  
TANYA.*

ELLIE

Look, I'm not the kind of person that butts into people's lives, but there's just this weird feeling that won't escape me, and I—

TANYA

—Before you say more, I think I understand where you're coming from.

ELLIE

You do?

TANYA

Yeah, I mean, we're getting older and you're watching me move on to the next stage in my life. But that doesn't mean we're not gonna still hang—

ELLIE

No, I don't think it has to do with that. Something about this whole ordeal just feels... I don't know, off? Especially considering the fact that the only person who has met Erica is Austin.

TANYA

Oh, I see, yes. The little conversation you and Austin had. Is that why you're switching sides all of a sudden?

ELLIE

No, Tanya, that isn't—

TANYA

*(dark)*

—No, no. You know what, Ellie? I'm done. You, and Austin, and Kiara and anyone else that's trying to intrude in my private life can all quit while you're ahead, because this stops now. And don't worry, I'll be out of here before you all know it so you can relish in your new alliance.

*She fiercely exits. Lights down.*

**28. Obsolete**

*Kiara, Austin, Ellie*

### **Scene Six**

#### **“Halfway”**

*The stage is set to AUSTIN's apartment. Some more time has passed: the day before TANYA and ERICA's move. AUSTIN and KIARA enter, sitting on the couch.*

KIARA

I THOUGHT SOMEHOW  
WE COULD WORK THINGS OUT  
LIKE TURNING SOUR INTO SWEET  
BUT WHEN THE WORDS NEVER CAME  
IT MADE HER SEED OF DOUBT  
GROW INTO AN ACHING TREE

AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS  
EVEN IF SHE IGNORES EVERY PLEA  
I CAN'T SIT BY AND WATCH HER LEAVE

AUSTIN

THOUGHT I COULD GET THROUGH

BUT MY EMOTIONS BROKE LOOSE  
HOW COULD I EVER HAVE BEEN SO FOOLISH?

THE CHANCE WAS RIGHT THERE  
SITTING IN FRONT OF ME  
BUT NOW MY APOLOGIES ARE OBSOLETE

AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS  
EVEN IF SHE IGNORES EVERY PLEA  
I CAN'T SIT BY AND WATCH HER LEAVE

*AUSTIN's phone rings. He looks down at it quizzically and answers, turning it to speaker.*

AUSTIN

Ellie?

ELLIE

*(over the phone)*

Hey, question, do you still live in that run-down studio apartment you moved into after college?

*KIARA chuckles as AUSTIN looks around his apartment.*

AUSTIN

Well, yeah... but I wouldn't call it-

*She hangs up. A knock is heard at the door. AUSTIN and KIARA exchange looks.*

ELLIE

*(offstage)*

Open up!

*AUSTIN walks over to the door and answers. ELLIE enters.*

AUSTIN

How did you even know I still lived here?



ELLIE

Just a guess. I wasn't about to go knocking on a stranger's door. *(noticing KIARA)* Wow, hey Kiara! It's been a while.

KIARA

*(curiously)*

Hey, El... What're you doing here?

*ELLIE silently sits down on the couch.*

ELLIE

*(to AUSTIN)*

I wish you'd told me earlier.

AUSTIN

You know?

ELLIE

Yeah. I mean, ever since she told me about her engagement, I sensed this like... weird urgency within her. Like she wanted to run from something, from someone? Do you think she's in trouble?

AUSTIN

Well—

KIARA

—She could be.

*Their eyes meet. KIARA gives AUSTIN a “just-go-with-it” look.*

ELLIE

Do you think they're both in trouble? Why would Tanya be so adamant to keep this quiet?

KIARA

I don't know, Ellie.

ELLIE

Well we have to find out. We need to get them to talk to us before they leave. Tanya needs to know that she's not alone in this. They're leaving today, so we need to go there right now.

ELLIE  
 AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS  
 EVEN IF SHE BEGS ME TO LEAVE  
 I'LL HOLD MY HEAD UP

AUSTIN, KIARA (*staggered*)  
 HAPPENS  
 BEGS ME, LEAVE

KIARA, AUSTIN  
 WE WILL NOT CONCEDE

ELLIE  
 CONCEDE

KIARA  
 IT'S NOW OR NEVER  
 IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE  
 OR ELSE WE'LL BE  
 SO FAR FROM HER ADVANCE

ELLIE, AUSTIN  
 DON'T LET HER LEAVE  
 PLEASE LET HER SEE

KIARA  
 PLEASE, DON'T LET IT BE FOREVER  
 DON'T LET US LOSE HER FOREVER

ELLIE, AUSTIN  
 DON'T LET IT BE  
 DON'T LET HER LEAVE

ALL  
 (*including ENSEMBLE*)

DON'T LET HER LEAVE  
 PLEASE LET HER SEE  
 DON'T LET HER LEAVE  
 DON'T TAKE HER FROM ME

KIARA

Let's go.

*All three exit in a hurry.*

*Lights down.*

**Scene Seven**

**“Realization”**

*The stage transforms and should be completely empty, representing ERICA’s empty apartment. ERICA and TANYA enter holding hands. They both stare around the apartment. Lights fade up dimly.*

ERICA

Wow, if this didn’t feel real before, it certainly feels like a fever dream now.

TANYA

Seriously. It’s gonna be so different waking up tomorrow.

*TANYA walks up to ERICA,  
holding both of her hands.*

It’s gonna be you and me now, finally starting our lives together. *(giddy)* I can hardly believe we’re doing this.

ERICA

I know, Love. Just think, soon enough we’ll be having breakfasts on our balcony and hanging picture frames over our mantel.

TANYA

Hopefully of our wedding pictures...

ERICA

*(correcting her)* Our elopement. They’re gonna be beautiful.

TANYA

They’ll be perfect. *(releasing her hands)* Is there anything else we’re forgetting?

ERICA

I don’t think so! We planned this all out pretty perfectly. All I need to do now is drop off my keys before we leave this building.

TANYA

*(remembering)*

Keys... keys...

*She searches her jeans and coat pockets. She pulls out her keys and sighs.*

(TANYA)

Ergh, forgot to drop mine off before I left. I gotta go return them real quick.

ERICA

We could always go later together, if you want. You don't have to go right this second, Sunshine.

TANYA

*(checking her watch)* They'll probably bill me if I don't go before noon.

*ERICA reaches out for her hand and holds it. TANYA kisses it and caresses her hand.*

I'll be right back, okay? I love you.

ERICA

I love you too.

**29. Keys, Keys / Tanya Realizes**

**Band**

*She exits. ERICA watches her. The lights fade out. ERICA exits.*

### **Scene Eight**

#### **“Awake”**

*Lights up on TANYA as she's walking down the sidewalk on her way back to her apartment.. ENTER PANDORA, who is walking on the sidewalk in the opposite direction.. They quickly recognize each other.*

PANDORA

Tanya?

TANYA

Dora! Hi! Wow, it's been so long.

PANDORA

Yeah! It really has... *(uneasily)* How've you been?

TANYA

Really great, actually. A lot has been going on in my life lately.

*She shows PANDORA her finger.*

I'm engaged!

PANDORA

Wow wow, congratulations! You truly deserve that happiness, Tanya. I'm sure on a day like today it's... probably been difficult. I... dropped in town because I was paying my respects today. *(hesitant)* Hey, um, listen, I'm sorry I didn't reach out to you right away after everything, I just knew you were under a huge amount of stress after the accident, and when I saw the obituary in the paper—wow, wait, I shouldn't be rambling on about this—

*KIARA, ELLIE and AUSTIN enter hurriedly, immediately spotting PANDORA and TANYA. They back up and listen to their conversation.*

TANYA

Wait, woah, what 'obituary'? What're you talking about?

PANDORA

Well, yeah, for... Erica? *(a long BEAT)* I'm only bringing it up because today marks one year that...

*TANYA backs up. A tense drum beat sounds onstage.*

TANYA

—No, no... I think you have me mixed up with someone else. Erica's not... she isn't...

PANDORA

Tanya, are you alright?

*The lights blackout. Dozens of inaudible whispers begin to fill the stage. Another tense drum beat. A spotlight shines down on TANYA. ELLIE, KIARA and AUSTIN move to a different corner on stage. TANYA slowly begins to hyperventilate. PANDORA backs up until she runs offstage.*

*A spotlight flickers up on KIARA. Her eyes meet TANYA's.*

KIARA

All I've ever wanted to do was be honest with you! After a while, I was just... nervous living at home.

*She looks out toward the audience. The lights on stage turn yellow. MOM's lines are heard offstage, representing a brief flashback.*

KIARA

We need to tell her, mom. She's been out of the hospital for a month already.

MOM

*(offstage, threatening)*

*Listen to me. We just got her back, and I want to keep it that way for a while, so you're gonna need to keep quiet. I don't suppose you'd like to see her in another coma now, would you? Do you want to be responsible for putting Tanya back there? Do you want to see your sister sick again?*

KIARA

N-no, but I—

MOM

*(offstage)*

*—Then if I ever catch you trying to tell her even a piece of what happened to Erica, you're out of this house for good.*

*The spotlight fades out on KIARA.  
Another drum beat. A spotlight  
flickers on AUSTIN in another  
corner.*

AUSTIN

How is everything with you? I didn't know you were living here.

TANYA

*(repeating)*

Everything has actually been great! And actually, I don't live here. Ironically, you'll be the first to know, but...

*She shows AUSTIN the ring. He  
examines it in his own hand. He  
looks up at her after a moment.*

AUSTIN

She isn't coming back. You've got to let go of her.

*TANYA grabs her hand back. The  
spotlight goes out on AUSTIN.*

TANYA

No!

*Spotlight flickers up on ELLIE.*

ELLIE

Speaking of the lovely Erica, when the hell are we gonna go out altogether? I never see her, Tanya, I've never even met her. Does she not like me?

TANYA

*(to ELLIE)*

No no no, it is not like that—

ELLIE

Let her go, Tanya.

*The other spotlights flicker on.  
AUSTIN, KIARA, and ELLIE all  
walk closer to TANYA, all encircled  
around her.*

AUSTIN  
It wasn't your fault.

KIARA  
You need to move on.

ELLIE  
Let her go.

### *30. You're Still Here*

*Tanya, Erica*

TANYA  
*(through a shriek)*  
No!

*All three back away from her and  
back to the spotlights. The other  
three turn off and they exit.  
Ensemble enters.*

TANYA  
BLOCK THEM OUT  
THEY'RE ALL WRONG  
I KNOW YOU'RE HERE  
YOU'RE NOT GONE

YOU'RE NOT GONE  
YOU'RE STILL HERE

*Ensemble whispers "you're still  
here" repeatedly.*

*(through harsh breathing)*  
WITH YOU, I COULD JUST...  
DISAPPEAR



WE HAD THE WHOLE WORLD  
RIGHT AT OUR FINGERTIPS  
HOW DID IT COME TO THIS  
YOU WERE ALL MINE  
DID I SWEAR ON THE WRONG STAR?  
DID I HOLD YOU WAY TOO HARD?  
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GO  
AND LEAVE ME BEHIND?

LOCK THEM ALL OUT  
THROW AWAY THE KEYS  
THAT WAY I CAN  
FINALLY BE FREE

I NEED TO END  
ALL THIS MADNESS INSIDE OF ME  
I NEED SOME RELEASE  
FROM ALL REALITY

THREE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE DAYS  
NOT ONE CLUE  
DON'T KNOW HOW TO FACE THE DAYS NOW  
IF THEY'RE NOT WITH YOU

NEED SOMEONE TO REWIND THE CLOCKS  
BACK TO WHEN I NEVER KNEW  
WAS THIS OUR ENDING FATE  
TO LOSE YOU?

LOCK THEM ALL OUT  
SILENCE ALL MY SCREAMS  
THAT WAY I CAN  
FINALLY BE FREE

I NEED TO END  
ALL THIS MADNESS INSIDE OF ME  
YOU'RE ALL THAT I NEED  
YOU'RE ALL THAT I SEE  
HOW COULD YOU JUST GO AND LEAVE

*Ensemble exits. The last spotlight flickers on. It's ERICA, dressed angelically. She holds out her arms. They lock eyes.*

ERICA

THINK OF ALL THAT COULD BE  
IF YOU JUST LEFT ALONG WITH ME  
NO MORE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS  
WHEN YOU'RE IN MY ARMS  
AND I'M HOLDING YOU TIGHT

TANYA

What happened to you? Where did you go?

*The lights flash on stage to a yellow color, resembling a flashback. ERICA meets her in the center. They're both looking out to the audience. The sound of a motorcycle driving is beneath their dialogue.*

TANYA

I just want you to respect and be patient with my decision right now. I'm not ready to move.

ERICA

All I've ever done is respect and be patient with your choices. But this is something I've wanted for us for such a long time.

TANYA

I'm not saying no—

ERICA

—But you're not saying yes either. You know this'll come up at your parents tonight. What're we supposed to say?

TANYA

Can we just talk about this later?

ERICA

No, I just wanna know what it is. You were hesitant about the engagement, and now you're hesitant about living together, what are you so afraid of? Do you not love me like you used to? Is that what it is?

TANYA

Erica, stop—

ERICA

—Then just tell me—

TANYA

*(panicked)*

*ERICA, LOOK OUT!*

*The spotlight shuts off on both of them. ERICA moves back to her original spotlight. The spotlight dimly fades up on her. TANYA's eyes shut closed, but flutter open after a moment.*

MOM

*(offstage)*

Honey, are you waking up? Oh, my baby girl.

TANYA

Mom?

*She looks over to ERICA.*

### ***31. Flashback***

***Band***

ERICA

Hi, Sunshine. Glad to see you're awake.

TANYA

*(warmly)*

Hi, Erica. Is everything alright?

MOM

*(offstage)*

It... it is now... I... we... were so worried about you.

*The lights return to normal. ERICA backs up upstage, practically near exiting.*

*A BEAT. Lights out.*

*Lights up. TANYA is staring around the empty space.*

TANYA

*(frantically)*

Erica? Erica, are you here?!

*No response.*

Erica?! Please... god... please... answer me. I don't know what to do without you, I don't know how to be... I need to be with you. I don't want to be alone, you told me I'd never have to be alone. Where did you go? Where did you go?

*TANYA falls to her knees and breaks into a sob. ERICA exits. KIARA, ELLIE, and AUSTIN run on stage and find her crying. TANYA and KIARA lock eyes and hug immediately. ELLIE and AUSTIN join in as well.*

TANYA

*(through sobs)*

S-sh-she's not coming back.

KIARA

*(quietly, comforting)*

It's gonna be okay... It's gonna be alright. We're here. We're all here.

*Lights down.*

**Scene Nine****“Acceptance”**

*It is two years later. A cremation monument is placed on stage with flowers and a few candles around it. TANYA walks on stage, wearing a winter jacket and boots. She holds flowers in her hands. She walks over to the urn and bends down, placing the flowers in a vase and busily designs them nicely. AUSTIN enters and notices TANYA. She stands up, brushing her skirt before noticing him.*

TANYA

Oh–hey.

AUSTIN

*(surprised)*

Hey! It’s um, been a while... how–

TANYA

*(shaking her head)* –We don’t need to go through awkward introductions or anything... I’ve been fine, really. *(knowingly)* But I’m sure Kiara’s kept you updated.

AUSTIN

I didn’t really see you much last year, so I thought I’d check in with her a few times. *(uneasy)*  
Have you spoken to your mom since–

TANYA

–No, uh, I haven’t. It’s just been me and Kiara. We had a lot to talk about after, well, everything.

AUSTIN

Yeah, I’m sure... so, how was Texas?

TANYA

Really good, actually. Granted, I didn’t expect my first time ever going there to be under those circumstances, but... the specialists I went to see were actually located in Houston, the place where I was supposed to move. I figured I’d get that new start, you know? That place is beautiful. You can’t see stars here like you can over there. The sky is much clearer.

AUSTIN

I can imagine.

TANYA

I miss it sometimes. But nowadays I look out my window at night and see those same stars, and somehow, it's beautiful all over again.

AUSTIN

I wish there was a way we could turn off every city light to see them more. But the beautiful thing is, even though we can't always see them, there's always something beautiful sitting right above us.

*They both look up. TANYA smiles.*

Oh, before I forget, how's Amelia?

TANYA

She's great! She's gotten so big. Kiara's had her hands full with moving and everything, so she has me babysit her sometimes.

AUSTIN

That's great! I'm really glad you're both doing well.

TANYA

So, what are you doing here?

AUSTIN

Oh, um—

TANYA

—And you should probably answer this carefully, cause I don't think it's every day you run into someone here.

AUSTIN

I actually came here to pay my respects. Even though she's been gone a few years, you made me remember how she was: probably the most lively person I'd ever met.

TANYA

You're right about that. She could bring her paintings to life if she really tried.

*AUSTIN bends down in front of the urn and rests a small bouquet of flowers in front of it. He is silent for a moment and touches the top of the urn gently. He lets go and stands up.*

AUSTIN

So what are you up to nowadays?

TANYA

I've been working at Clearwater again. I actually made Senior Aquarist late last year, so it's been really nice.

AUSTIN

How's Ellie?

TANYA

She's actually waiting in the car right now—

*ELLIE enters, shivering.*

ELLIE

—Tanya! Could I borrow your extra gloves please? My hands won't stop shaking—

*She notices AUSTIN and smiles.*

TANYA

—*Was* waiting in the car.

ELLIE

Hey, Austin! Long time no see.

AUSTIN

Nice seeing you again, Ellie.

ELLIE

Did you move yet? You know you can do better than that studio.

AUSTIN

Why are you so against my apartment?

TANYA

You guys should go catch up for a few minutes. I won't be here long.

*AUSTIN and ELLIE nod before continuing a conversation while exiting. TANYA stands in front of the monument.*

TANYA

Hey, Love. It's been a while, huh. But it also feels like time has barely passed with us, really. Being with you was... timeless. It felt like forever and fleeting at the same time, like a block of ice never melting. And in that block, there's pure solid ice, and when that melts, there's just water left behind, and eventually when that dries up, there's... nothing. I guess I didn't really know what time standing still really meant until you were gone. To me, you were entirely solid, and I'd melt for you.

**33. Farewell, For Now (Act II Finale)**

*Tanya, Company*

TANYA

YOU WERE MY SOLID GROUND  
 BACK WHEN I LEAST EXPECTED IT  
 AND THOUGH WE ARE FAR RIGHT NOW  
 SOMEDAY WE'LL NEVER HAVE TO MISS OUT  
 OUT

I'LL TREASURE ALL THOSE DAYS  
 REPLACED ANY PAIN  
 WITH LOVE THAT'S INGRAINED

NO MATTER  
 NO MATTER WHAT  
 LOVE WILL, OH  
 LOVE WILL FOLLOW US

I COULD TRAVEL TILL THE END OF THE WORLD  
 KNOWING THAT I'LL SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN



TILL THEN  
 IT'S FAREWELL, FOR NOW  
 TILL THEN  
 IT'S FAREWELL, FOR NOW

EVEN WHEN I FELT ALONE  
 I FOUND MY WAY BACK HOME

LOST MY WAY IN THE DARK  
 BUT NOW

*KIARA, AUSTIN, and ELLIE walk  
 onstage.*

TANYA, KIARA, AUSTIN, ELLIE  
 I'VE BEEN REKINDLED  
 BY THEIR LIGHT  
 LIGHT

TANYA  
 I'LL TREASURE ALL THOSE DAYS  
 HEALED THE HEARTACHE  
 I'M FINALLY AWAKE

NO MATTER  
 NO MATTER WHAT  
 LOVE WILL, OH  
 LOVE WILL FOLLOW US

I COULD TRAVEL  
 TILL THE END OF THE WORLD  
 KNOWING THAT I'LL  
 SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN

TILL THEN  
 IT'S FAREWELL, FOR NOW

TANYA, KIARA, AUSTIN, ELLIE  
 TILL THEN  
 IT'S FAREWELL, FOR NOW

*ERICA enters from the opposite side, standing across from TANYA.*

TANYA

I'LL MISS YOUR LOVE  
 I'LL MISS YOUR TOUCH  
 I'LL MISS YOUR WARMTH  
 YOU WERE THE SUN  
 I'LL MISS THE WAY  
 YOU FELT ENOUGH  
 AND NOW YOU'RE IN THE STARS  
 SHINING UP ABOVE

*ENSEMBLE enters.*

OH, NO MATTER  
 NO MATTER WHAT

*ALL (except TANYA)*

NO, NO MATTER  
 NO MATTER WHAT

TANYA

LOVE WILL, OH  
 LOVE WILL FOLLOW US

*ALL (except TANYA)*

LOVE WILL, OH  
 LOVE WILL FOLLOW US

TANYA

I COULD TRAVEL  
 TILL THE END OF THE WORLD

ALL

KNOWING THAT I'LL  
 SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN

TILL THEN  
 IT'S FAREWELL FOR NOW

TILL THEN  
IT'S FAREWELL FOR NOW

*TANYA walks closer to the  
monument and touches it. ERICA  
touches TANYA's shoulder.*

TILL THEN  
IT'S FAREWELL...

TANYA

FOR NOW

ALL

*Lights fade down.*

**END OF PLAY.**

### **34. Bows**

*Company*

*(Instrumental break during bows)*

ALL

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS  
IT'S THE THOUGHT... THAT

THINK OF ALL THAT COULD BE  
IF YOU JUST LEFT ALONG WITH ME  
NO MORE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS  
WHEN YOU'RE IN MY ARMS  
AND I'M HOLDING YOU TIGHT

SOPRANOS, ALTOS  
'CAUSE I NEVER WANNA  
LET YOU GO  
YOUR LOVE'S THE ONE THING  
THAT FEELS LIKE HOME

TENORS  
SO, WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?  
WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?

ALL (*except* TANYA, KIARA)  
OH, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

TANYA, KIARA  
WHERE DO WE GO?  
HERE?

SOPRANOS, ALTOS  
YOU'RE ALL THAT  
I'VE DREAMED OF  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?

TANYA, TENORS  
YOU'RE STILL HERE  
HAVEN'T YOU KNOWN?

ERICA  
I'M STILL HERE  
KNOWN?

ENSEMBLE  
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
ONLY YOU, NOTHING MORE  
BE WITH ME ALWAYS

TANYA, ERICA  
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU SENSELESS  
ONLY YOU, NOTHING MORE  
BE WITH ME

ALL  
THAT'S ALL THAT I ASK FOR

LET'S MOVE ON TO A NEW LIFE  
THERE'S SO MUCH TO EXPLORE (TO EXPLORE, TO EXPLORE)  
ONLY JUST GETTING STARTED

ALL  
(*staggered entrances*)

WHO CAN, WHO CAN  
WHO CAN, WHO CAN

ASK FOR...

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

TENORS, ALTOS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS

SOPRANOS  
DON'T WANNA SAY  
GOODBYE

(TENORS, ALTOS)  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

SOPRANOS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

SOPRANOS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

TENORS  
PLEASE, DON'T LET IT  
BE FOREVER

ALTOS  
WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

CRYSTAL CLEAR  
THE WATER SEEMS  
CRYSTAL CLEAR

(SOPRANOS)  
BUT IN THE END  
WE'LL BE ALRIGHT

TENORS, ALTOS  
PLEASE, DON'T LET IT  
BE FOREVER

ALL