

Danny Jones

by

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. LAKE TITICACA - DAY

The underwater SOUNDS of gurgling and bubbling as DANNY (14, beautiful, reckless) combs through a never ending sea of reeds. From her POV in the murky water, we can barely see what's in front of her until-- we cut to Danny's eyes and see them go WIDE.

A stone DISK, 7 feet in diameter with what look like hieroglyphs on it.

Danny swims further down to investigate. She feels the stone and retracts her arms right away. There's something powerful there in.

Danny needs air so she goes up for only a moment before diving down again. This time, she brushes away silt and algae so she can see the stone more clearly.

Five glyphs - one in the center, four around it. Taking her time, she rubs her fingers over each glyph, trying to decipher its meaning.

Danny goes up to the surface for one more breath before diving down again. This time, Danny tries to lift the stone. Straining, she lets out too much oxygen and begins swimming upward until---

A BRIGHT LIGHT shines from beneath her. She looks down and sees that the glyph in the center of the stone has sunken down allowing the light underneath it to shine forth. The light gets brighter and brighter.

Danny swims back down to it. CLOSE UP on her eyes as she sees what it is.

EXT. LAKE TITICACA - CONTINUOUS

The sun is shining and the lake is calm. The native Uru people do chores on their floating islands. Some are fishing from boats made of reeds.

Suddenly SPLASH - Danny's hand emerges from the water first - clutching a SHINY MEDALLION.

Her head appears next, immediately sucking in as much oxygen as she can.

She was completely out of breath down there! She whips her head back and forth to remove excess water before taking a good look at the medallion. She smiles. It's enchanting. The victory vibe doesn't last long as she hears--

VOICE (O.C.)
 (in Spanish)
 Hey! You there. Where did you get that?

Danny instinctively dives underwater again and after a few seconds she resurfaces near the shore. She sees the VILLAGER who was shouting at her. He's on a boat and starts heading right for her.

VILLAGER
 (in Spanish)
 STOP RIGHT THERE!

Danny is not one to follow directions, especially not when they conflict with her plans. Instead of stopping, she climbs onto the shore, grabs her backpack and walks away. For a second, she puts the medallion in her mouth in order to tie up her long wavy hair. Once the hair is up, the medallion goes back into her hand.

By now, the villager on the boat has made it to the shore and desperately calls out--

VILLAGER
 (in Spanish)
 Stop that girl! Somebody! Anybody!
 Help! She's stolen it!

People around the shore stop their routine activities and look at Danny. A wall of people form in front of her. Clutching the medallion tightly, she begins sprinting full speed toward them.

WHAM! Danny bursts through the wall, but is pulled back. A MAN has grabbed part of her backpack. It's a tug-of-war until--

RIIIIP

She wins the bag - time to run.

We see the man that grabbed the backpack has a PATCH that was ripped off in the struggle:

Memorial High School Tucson, AZ.

Track and Field Champions

The Villager from the boat is running toward her at full speed. Other's join him and it becomes an all out race. Danny is losing her lead fast, but she doesn't break under the pressure. Instead, she scans her surroundings. We see her smile. She has an idea.

Danny switches directions, running toward what looks like an old farm. The villagers are on her tail but from somewhere deep within, she garners the strength to speed up. With a bigger lead, she is able to disappear behind a BARN.

INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

Danny is untying a DONKEY when she hears a door open.

FARMER
(in Spanish)
Hey! Girl, what are you doing?

DANNY
(quietly, to the donkey)
Hey buddy, I need a favor. I
promise I'll get you back home
today.

Danny hops onto the donkey. It doesn't move.

FARMER
(in Spanish)
Hey! I said what are you doing?!

DANNY
(to the donkey)
I promise you'll be home before
you know it.

The donkey doesn't budge.

FARMER
(in Spanish)
Get off my donkey right now! I'm
warning you.

DANNY
No, really. I promise! What else
do you have going on today. I'm
offering you the adventure of a
lifetime and you just--

BANG! The farmer has fired a warning shot.

The donkey is in a gallop almost immediately. BANG Another gunshot. Danny is curled up close to the Donkey's neck, they round the corner of the barn and hit the open road.

EXT. FARMLAND - CONTINUOUS

Danny and the donkey are in a groove now, racing down a hill toward a small town.

The villagers, still running, are unable to catch up with the donkey. They fade slowly into the background.

DANNY

Woooo! Thank you. Ha-HA I thought
we were gonners for a minute
there.

Danny strokes the donkey's neck, smiling graciously.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

The courtyard in Puno Peru is filled with pop-up shops featuring locals offering a variety of alpaca wool sweaters, beanies and little figurines. All the beauty of Peruvian culture on display.

There is a small BOY (10yo, too skinny) sitting on the steps of the courtyard. Danny hops off the donkey near him.

DANNY

(in broken Spanish)
Hey. Do you think you could help
me with something?

BOY

(in Spanish)
I can try.

DANNY

(in broken Spanish)
That's wonderful. Can you please
hold onto my friend here while I
go inside the hotel for a minute?

BOY

Sí

DANNY

Gracias, mi amigo.

Danny hands him the reigns of the donkey and walks up the steps into the hotel.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Before she can get both feet in the door her father, JEFF (mid-forties, clean cut, genial) greets her.

JEFF

There you are! Do you have everything? The bus is almost here.

DANNY

Yeah, totally. One sec!

Danny's step-mother, REGINA (tall, perpetually ornery) arrives in the lobby.

REGINA

(off Danny's appearance)
Where have you been?

Danny doesn't flinch. She's been making excuses her entire life.

DANNY

One last swim.

REGINA

Ha, one last swim. That's just great. You're going to be wet for the entire trip home, you realize.

She turns to her husband, Jeff, giving him a look that says, "do something."

JEFF

I'll stall the bus, Danny, if you want to change into some dry clothes.

DANNY

I'm fine! Just one sec.

Danny goes up to the counter that has the remains of the hotel's continental breakfast. She grabs an apple. Considers. Then grabs two more, a biscuit, some cheese and a peanut butter packet. Then she looks around for something. Spotting a styrofoam bowl, she fills it up with her goods and walks outside.

REGINA

What is she doing?

JEFF

She's probably just hungry from
her swim. Wait with the bags while
I check us out.

Jeff walks up to the clerk behind the front desk.

EXT. HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Meanwhile, Danny is talking to the boy and the donkey.

DANNY

(in broken Spanish)
The farm is up the hill there and
to the right. It has a yellow sign
next to the mailbox. And these are
for you BUT, don't forget to give
some to our friend here.

She pets the donkey's long fuzzy nose and smiles that
enchanted smile.

DANNY (CONT'D)

(in broken Spanish)
Thank you so much. See you later.

The boy and the donkey leave in the direction of the farm.
As Danny turns back to the hotel entrance, she sees her dad
and Regina exiting with their stuff.

The bus pulls up and Jeff helps the driver load their
luggage into the storage area.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

Danny enters the bus and claims the back seat by sticking
her legs across the the entire bench.

Moments later, the bus begins to drive away and she looks
out the back window for one last glimpse of the town. The
villagers that were chasing her are just arriving! Danny
ducks, hiding. She reaches into her pocket to make sure the
medallion is still there.

It is. We see her take it out and marvel at it's beauty.

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

We see an image of a plane flying through the clouds superimposed onto a weathered map of the world. A red line traces the plane's route from Cuzco, Peru to Los Angeles with a stop in Lima and Mexico City.

OVER BLACK:

DANNY JONES

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Rain taps annoyingly on the window next to Danny's desk where she sits, googling. She's got the medallion out and, next to it, a sketched version on a well worn Moleskine. The symbols are similar to hieroglyphs, but unrecognizable when compared to the images on her computer.

There is a list of crossed out languages on the Moleskine: Aztec. Mayan. Sumerian. Sanskrit.

Danny turns the disk over and over, frustrated with the lack of information on the web.

JEFF (O.C.)
Danny! Time to go!

DANNY
OK! Be down in a sec!

Danny opens her desk drawer and sets the medallion carefully next to several pottery shards and old coins - remnants of previous adventures.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jeff is peeling potatoes. Regina is at the stove, sipping white wine and stirring a big pot. Danny ENTERS.

JEFF
Want me to take you?

DANNY
It's three blocks

REGINA
 (not looking up from her
 stirring)
 Because it's raining, dear.

JEFF
 Pouring, really. As you know--

DANNY
 It's fine. It's not like I'm going
 to drown.

JEFF
 Alright, just be careful. Have
 fun. We'll try and save you some
 of this delicious dinner.

DANNY
 We're going to order pizza.
 (beat)
 But thanks. I appreciate the
 offer.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE, PUNO PERU - NIGHT

A middle-aged MAN sits at a desk working on an old computer
 This is the MAYOR of Puno. RAIN falls hard outside. Two
 VILLAGERS enter. In SPANISH, with subtitles, a conversation
 ensues.

VILLAGER 1
 Good evening, Mayor.

MAYOR
 Good evening.

VILLAGER 1
 The medallion, from the lake, sir.
 It's been stolen.

MAYOR
 That's impossible.

VILLAGER 2
 It's true, sir. I saw it myself.

MAYOR
 You saw the medallion?

The villager nods, sincerely.

MAYOR
 Where is it now?

VILLAGER 1
Arizona, Sir.

MAYOR
United States?

VILLAGER 1
Yes sir.

Villager 1 looks at Villager 2. Villager 2 sets the PATCH from Danny's backpack on the Mayor's desk.

The mayor's eyes go wide with passion. Music crescendos into the pitch of a doorbell--

DING DONG.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

MRS. BAKER (30s, uptight) puts earrings on while looking at herself in the bathroom mirror.

MRS. BAKER
Kyle, Danny's here! Go let her in!

KYLE, 7, is playing Xbox with complete focus and does not answer his mother.

DING DONG.

MRS. BAKER
Kyle!

DING A DING DING DONG. The doorbell is being pushed a bunch of times which is annoying for even a patient person. For Mrs. Baker who is about as tightly wound as a person can be, this is unforgivable.

MRS. BAKER (CON'T)
For Christ's sake!

Mrs. Baker walks down the hall and past the living room where Kyle sits, oblivious, totally immersed in the game.

She opens the door to find Danny, soaking wet.

MRS. BAKER
Oh, dear. Stay right there.

She sighs loudly. *One more thing to do because her son and her husband are not helping.* She goes and finds some towels and makes her way back to the front door wrapping one around Danny's wet frame.

MRS. BAKER

There you are. Okay, well. Go ahead and put your stuff in the dryer and let's hope something of Kyle's fits you while your clothes are drying. Otherwise... well, let's just hope something fits.

Danny barely holds onto the towels.

DANNY

I'm fine, Mrs. Baker.

MRS. BAKER

You may very well be fine, but my furniture most definitely will not be.

Danny takes the hint and tightens her grip on the towel around her shoulders.

Kyle's DAD (30s, nerdy) comes trotting down the stairs. He makes eye contact with Danny and then quickly breaks it.

MR. BAKER

Hi.

DANNY

Hey Mr. B.

Well, that was awkward. Some strangeness between these two but we'll get to that another time.

MRS. BAKER

Pizza money's on the counter. Back by 10.

Kyle's dad gives Mrs. Baker a pleading look.

MR. BAKER

There's a Q and A with Favreau after.

MRS. BAKER (CON'T)

Fine. 11. Or. Whenever. I don't know.

DANNY

No problem, Mrs. Baker. Anytime is fine. Have fun!

MRS. BAKER

We'll try! Although with this rain, I'd rather stay home entirely.

They head out the door and Danny locks it after them. Without making contact with Kyle, she heads straight upstairs to his bedroom.

INT. KYLE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kyle's room is a mess. Clothes scattered everywhere, toys on every surface, candy wrappers, half empty glasses of milk, old toast.

DANNY

(under her breath)

I guess none of this counts as furniture.

Danny tramps over to his dresser and opens the pajama drawer.

INT. LIVING ROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Danny walks down the stairs and takes a seat on the couch next to Kyle who is still playing Xbox. She puts her legs up on the coffee table revealing her bare legs - Kyle's PJ pants only go down to her knees. The shirt is also too small, but she doesn't care.

DANNY

Sup.

KYLE

Sup. Like the new look. Very... me.

DANNY

Thanks, I was going for Baby Chic.

KYLE

I'm not a baby!

DANNY

You're not?

KYLE

No! I'm 8!

DANNY

You're not 8.

KYLE

How would you know?

DANNY

Kyle, I've been babysitting you since you were two. I've literally planned the last 3 of your birthday parties. You don't turn 8 for another month and a half.

KYLE

Okay fine. Nearly 8. Wait - Since I was two? How old were you?

DANNY

Nine, I think.

KYLE

My parents let a nine year old watch me? That's insane. You could have killed me!

DANNY

I could kill you now.

KYLE

Seriously. Who in their right mind lets a nine year old watch a toddler?!

DANNY

You'd be surprised.

KYLE

Unreal. Well, I'm sick of this game. Wanna order pizza?

DANNY

Let's do it.

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

We're outside now, looking into the living room window through a filter of pouring rain.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - LATER

Kyle and Danny sit on the couch scarfing pepperoni and sausage pizza while watching a NatGeo show on ancient civilizations.

KYLE

Remind me again why we aren't watching the new Avengers movie?

DANNY

You don't need to fill your head with anymore junk. This is just as good AND it's educational.

KYLE

Avenger's isn't junk! It's got educational stuff in it. Like, history, you know?

DANNY

History? Oh brother. Ok. Tell me three things you've learned about history from the Avengers and I'll switch channels.

KYLE

(still chewing a huge bite of pizza)

Okay, Loki and Thor are brothers and the real Norse gods Thor and Loki were brothers. And their dad is the god Odin.

DANNY

Okay, okay. Two more.

KYLE

Um. Captain America wanted to be a soldier in World War Two, but he was too puny to fight until they turned him into a super soldier. Then he went and fought HYDRA which was basically the Nazis.

DANNY

And are the Nazis good or bad?

KYLE

Bad! Duh.

DANNY

Good. All right, give me one more.

KYLE

Ok. Um. Oh! Wonder Woman is an Amazon Woman.

(MORE)

KYLE (CONT'D)

Which is a race of warrior women that lived in South America with weird kind of greek accents even though Greece is super far from South America.

DANNY

Doesn't count. Wonder Woman is DC not Marvel.

KYLE

What?! Come on.

DANNY

You said you wanted to watch Avengers not Justice League.

KYLE

But!

DANNY

Plus that's not really how or where Amazonia is. Give me one more.

KYLE

UGH! Fine.

On the screen, we see an archaeologist using a tiny brush to reveal a fossil. Danny takes a big gulp of root beer and watches the TV intently.

KYLE (CONT'D)

I can't think of anything.

DANNY

Guess we're finishing Lost Cities with Albert Lin!

Danny turns up the volume and continues chowing down on her pizza, excitedly.

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - LATER

The rain continues to come down in sheets. Pounding hard on the window of the living room.

INT. KYLE'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny is sitting on the couch looking at different hieroglyphs on her phone. Kyle, now in PJ's, ENTERS from the stairway. He is sleepy, but fighting it hard.

KYLE

Ok. I brushed. Can we watch one more episode?

DANNY

Nope. Sorry little dude.

Danny gets up from the couch and follows him upstairs.

INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

We follow them into Kyle's room

INT. KYLE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny pulls the covers down and Kyle gets into bed.

KYLE

(yawning)

Two books. You pick.

DANNY

No books. You chose more TV time, remember.

KYLE

Pleaseeee?

DANNY

Nope. Sorry, not tonight.

KYLE

What about a story? You could just tell me a story. Please. I won't be able to fall asleep. It's raining so hard.

Danny checks the time on her phone. She sighs, relenting.

DANNY

Fine.

KYLE

Yes!

Danny sits down on the side of the bed.

DANNY

Once upon a time, there was a young prince. His father, the king, was a very kind ruler--

KYLE

(interrupting)
No, like an adventure story.

DANNY

Excuse me. Beggars can't be choosers.

KYLE

I choose to beg you to tell one of your adventure stories.

DANNY

Ugh. You're the worst. Okay.

Kyle smiles and claps his hands excitedly.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It was about two years ago. My dad was working at the Doctor's Without Borders site in Kenya, and he brought me and Regina along. They weren't married yet and I didn't like her at all, I thought she was a total pain.

One day, she offered to take me on a safari. Dad didn't have any days off during our trip, so if I wanted to go on a safari, I'd have to go with Regina.

So, we arrived at the safari place, got in the jeep and started going. First, we saw antelope off in the distance. The guide taught us about their life and what they eat and why they roam around, you know. And then, all of a sudden, out of no where we heard a giant ROOOAAARRRR!

Kyle jumps a little and pulls the covers up to his chin.

DANNY (CONT'D)

We all turned around to look and it was a full grown male lion.

(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

Our guide told us to be quite and stay still, but Regina started screaming. Like full on, scared to death, screaming.

The poor guide didn't know what to do, so he just put the car in gear and sped away. Regina kept screaming and at some point, I started laughing. Sure, we were probably about to die, but her scream was hilarious.

So the guide drove us to the nearest village and told us to jump out of the car and run into one of these hut type houses. It turned out to be the medicine man's house. There were feathers and bird feet and powders and stuff in different bowls all around. It was super creepy. Regina was crying and breathing hard and the medicine man took her by the shoulders and looked her right in the eye. It was intense. So intense that Regina stopped crying and started breathing normally. Once she was calm, he grabbed a bowl of herbs and a gourd full of black liquid. He poured some of it in with the herbs and then grabbed another bowl and added some of it's contents.

KYLE

What was it?

DANNY

I have no idea, but it smelled terrible.

Kyle gives a grossed out and terrified look.

KYLE

I don't like this story. It's too scary.

DANNY

You said you wanted adventure!

KYLE

Adventure yes. Horror, no.

DANNY

It gets better, just wait.

Kyle cringes and pulls his covers up tighter.

DANNY (CONT'D)

When he finished making his potion, he took a drink. While he drank, he stared right into Regina's eyes. Then, he gave her the bowl and nodded for her to take a drink. It was like she was hypnotized because she did it without hesitation.

Then, I reached my hand out to have some, but the safari guide put my hand down, signaling that it was not for me.

Then we heard something go thump. Thump, thump, thump, outside the hut. The thumping got louder and louder until we finally saw what it was -- the lion! The lion was literally in the doorway of the hut. And out of nowhere, Regina just started walking straight up to it.

They stood there, staring at each other for what felt like an hour and then, without any sort of provocation, at the same exact moment, they broke eye contact and went their separate ways. The lion walked back outside and Regina walked toward us.

KYLE

What?? Really??

DANNY

Really.

KYLE

And then what?

DANNY

Then we said thank you to the medicine man and got back in our jeep and continued the safari.

KYLE

No. Way.

DANNY

Way. And from then on I've had mad respect for Regina. She still gets freaked out sometimes, and she's annoyingly girly, and she drives me nuts, but, standing up to a lion? I've got to give her some cred.

KYLE

Wow. That's incredible.

DANNY

Yep. Okay, time for sleep.

Danny turns out the light and walks back downstairs.

INT. KYLE'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

She sits down at the couch and turns on the show again. Almost immediately, she falls asleep.

EXT. KYLE'S HOUSE - LATER

The rain is still coming down hard and starting to pool in spots on the sidewalk. We hear a car pull up and see the headlights turning into the driveway.

INT. KYLE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Keys unlock the front door as Mr. and Mrs. Baker hurry in from the rain.

Danny is asleep on the couch and the TV screen has gone blue signaling that whatever she was watching ended a while ago.

Mrs. Baker walks clumsily to the couch and nudges Danny's shoulder.

DANNY

Ah!

MRS. BAKER

I'm sorry to wake you Danny. We're home now.

Mr. Baker heads upstairs to check on Kyle. Danny rubs her eyes and gets her bearings.

MRS. BAKER

Would you like a ride home?

Danny is too sleepy to refuse. She nods and picks herself up off the couch. She's still in Kyle's PJs.

DANNY

I'm so tired. Do you mind if I bring these back next time?

Mrs. Baker is dying to say no, but she's tipsy and wants to go to bed as soon as possible.

MRS. BAKER

Sure, dear. Let's go.

INT. MRS. BAKER'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Mrs. Baker are wet from their brief walk from the front door to the car. Danny curls up by the window, still half asleep as Mrs. Baker drives her home. Mrs. Baker reverses and we hear BUMP as she drives over the curb with one of her back wheels.

EXT. DANNY'S HOUSE - LATER

Danny is half outside Mrs. Baker's car.

MRS. BAKER (O. C.)

Is Venmo fine? I don't have cash.

DANNY

Yeah, Danny underscore Jones one one. Night Mrs. B.

MRS. BAKER

Okay. Goodnight, now.

Mrs. Baker's car jolts into reverse, drives over the curb again, and speeds away. She really shouldn't be driving.

Danny walks slowly up her driveway, disregarding the rain beating down her face. As she gets to the stoop, she stops. Head up, eyes closed, she opens her mouth to taste the rain. And then-

COUGH

Wrong pipe.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. DANNY'S ROOM - MORNING

From Danny's window, we see that the sky is still rather dark. Definitely morning, but not a typical day in her neighborhood. You can hear the rain still tapping away on the pane. Danny is sound asleep, in Kyle's tiny PJs.

KNOCK KNOCK

Danny's dad opens her door and peeks his head in.

JEFF

Morning Sweetheart. Time for school.

Danny can barely open her eyes.

DANNY

What?

JEFF

It's seven thirty. Gotta get out of here by eight if you want to make it on time.

DANNY

I don't want.

JEFF

What's that?

DANNY

I don't want to make it on time.

JEFF

Unfortunately, I have to make it on time to the hospital which means I need to get you to school on time. So, you're out of luck today. But there's always tomorrow.

Danny rolls over and buries her face in a pile of pillows.

JEFF

K. See you downstairs. Love you. It's going to be a good day!

And with that, he closes the door again. Danny grumbles under her breath.

DANNY
(mumbling)
How does he know?

INT. BATHROOM - MORNING

Danny, still half asleep, brushes her teeth and splashes water on her face. It helps - a little.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Danny ENTERS. She's in jeans and a plain dark t-shirt. Very much a tomboy. She sits at the counter. Jeff approaches with a to-go mug and a treat.

JEFF
Green tea and pop-tarts. Breakfast
of champions.

Danny takes the offering and has a tiny bite of the pop-tart. It's very hot.

DANNY
Thank you.

JEFF
Welcome, Honey. OK, Let's get a
move on.

INT. JEFF'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Jeff buckle their seat belts and make their way out of the garage. The car is nice, clean and newer. You can tell he takes good care of it.

JEFF
Can you believe it's still
raining? I mean, no complaints. We
definitely need it. But maybe not
this much all at once. The desert
can't drink it up fast enough.

Danny isn't listening, too busy drinking her tea in order to wake up.

JEFF (CON'T)
They said it might flood in some
parts of the city.
(MORE)

JEFF (CON'T) (CONT'D)
Can you believe that? Almost wish
we stayed in Peru.

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Above the car, we watch the rain fall fast and hard. It's both beautiful and foreboding. Following the car, we see eucalyptus trees scattered here and there along the road. The occasional house.

JEFF (O.C.)

Plus, they really could use more doctors down there. But, I can't say anything, I just have to go where they send me and do the best I can while I'm there.

We PAN OUT to see the vast emptiness of the desert landscape.

EXT. SCHOOL - LATER

Jeff's car pulls up and parks next to the curb in front of Danny's school.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Danny finishes one pop-tart and wraps up the second for later. She puts it in a zippered pouch on her backpack and begins slinging the straps over her arms.

JEFF
Love you. Have a great time and remember to be a bright light to everyone.

Danny glares at him.

JEFF (CON'T)
How 'bout a tea light.

He smiles, pointing to her green tea.

DANNY
(sarcastically)
You're so funny.

JEFF
Thanks, I'll be here all week.

Danny opens the passenger door and begins exiting the car.

DANNY
Sweet. Ok. Bye.

JEFF
Oh! Almost forgot. Regina is going to pick you up today.

DANNY
Nooo. Why? Can't I just call a ride share or something.

JEFF
She wants to take you to the mall so you can pick out some fun lady things.

DANNY
Ew. What?

JEFF
I don't know, text her. Love-you-bye!

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Danny shuts her car door and grumpily walks toward the school entrance. Unfazed by the rain.

INT. SCHOOL - MORNING

It's Social Studies and Danny makes her way to her desk on the far side of the classroom. Her best friend GIGI (always happy - think Kathy Najimi as a 14yo) is seated in a desk next to Danny's. She hasn't learned to breathe in between sentences and thus is almost impossible to converse with.

GIGI
Good morning! How are you? How was babysitting? Did you get any sleep? Oh my god, how was Peru?! I mean, I obvi saw your instagram but I haven't like legit talked to you about it. Tell me everything. Did you meet any cuties? I personally would love to date a foreigner. I've been working on my Spanish over break and think I've mastered at least the flirty words. Yo amo tu culata.

The TEACHER (Thirties, mean, but we LOVE them) interrupts everything to begin class.

TEACHER

OK. Class, welcome back from winter break. I'd ask for stories, but I don't want to hear them. Plus, you have a big assignment this week and will need all the time you can get.

A few groans are heard among the students.

TEACHER (CON'T)

I'm going to put you in groups of two and have you answer the questions I've written on the board. As you can see, these questions are not only thought provoking, they require an opinion.

You and your partner will need to decide what side of the argument you'd like to be on and then work out how best to share your opinion in written form.

Your answers must be at least three paragraphs each. Full sentences. Perfect grammar. This isn't middle school anymore, so don't think you can bs your way through this--

The sound of the teacher fades out as we get close on Gigi.

GIGI

(whispering)

So, did you bring back any awesome souvenirs?

DANNY

Well actually yeah. I found a--

The teacher is now standing directly over Danny's desk. Danny freezes and looks up sheepishly.

TEACHER

No, please. Go ahead, Jones. I'm not in the middle of teaching a class or anything.

Danny mimes zipping her lips.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Okay, last row, the person sitting directly in front of you is your partner. Anna and Sarah, Joey and Ella, etc. Then the next row, the person directly in front of you so Nate and Erica, for example. Finally the first two rows are partners. Everybody got that?

Every student begins to make noise. Some protest. Other's high five. It's noisy. Gigi and Danny are in the second to last row, so they turn their desks around to face their partners. Gigi is with LYLAH (cheerleader, intimidating) and Danny is with MATT (the hot new transfer, soccer star, everyone wants him and he knows it.)

GIGI

Ok. Let's get started. How do you want to do it, like should we have a conversation first or do you want to write down stuff individually?

Lylah isn't paying attention. She's too busy being jealous of Danny talking to Matt.

DANNY

Sup.

MATT

Um. Hey. So listen, I don't really need to do this because I have a tutor, so let me text you his number so you two can get together and write this up.

DANNY

Wow. Way to be upfront, but no. I don't work like that. If I have to do it, you have to do it. Now let's start off with the first question, is climate change important and what actions should our civilization take based on your opinion? Well, if that's not a leading question...

GIGI

Hello, Lylah, can you focus for a second? What do you--

LYLAH

Shh.

GIGI

Oh, are you thinking about it?
Nice. I'll be quiet and let you
think.

Gigi twiddles her thumbs and waits as long as she possibly
can, which is less than four seconds, before breaking the
silence.

GIGI

What are you thinking?

LYLAH

(whispering)

Ugh. I was trying to listen to
them talk.

GIGI

(in normal volume)

Who, Danny and--

LYLAH

SHH!

Danny turns her head to Gigi.

DANNY

What?

GIGI

We were just wondering what you
two were talking about.

Lylah is thoroughly embarrassed.

LYLAH

No we weren't.

DANNY

(intentionally loud)

I was just telling Matthew here
that he can't pass me off to his
tutor because he's a lazy d-bag.

MATT

Hey!

TEACHER

Is there something going on here
Jones?

DANNY

(slyly)

Matt was just about to tell me his feelings toward climate change. I'm very excited to hear.

TEACHER

Excellent. Matt, go ahead.

MATT

Um. Heh. Climate change is... Bad.

(beat)

Definitely bad. Not good at all. So. Yep. That's what my feeling toward that is.

The teacher nods and then turns toward another group to check in on them.

DANNY

Nice work. I agree. Now, what can our civilization do about it?

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Establishing shot of the school. The bell rings and we know an hour has passed.

INT. SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Most kids race out of class immediately while others stay and pack up. Gigi, Danny and Lylah are among the few still in the classroom.

LYLAH

(to Danny)

Hey, can I ask you something?

DANNY

Oh, um. Sure?

LYLAH

How did you do that?

DANNY

Do what?

LYLAH

Talk to Matt like that.

DANNY

(embarrassed)

What do you mean? He's my partner,
we kind of have to talk.

LYLAH

Sure, but you didn't like fumble
your words or blush or anything.

DANNY

Why would-di um why do any of
those things?

LYLAH

Duh, he's the hottest guy on the
planet. And he goes to our school
now. And you get to be partners
with him. You are so lucky.

DANNY

(flustered)

Ha. Well, thank you. But, he's
just a guy.

LYLAH

Just a guy?

(to Gigi)

Just a guy.

(back to Danny)

Well I'm just a girl who is *dying*
to talk to him.

DANNY

So...

Danny lifts her arms and shoulder shrugging.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Talk to him?

LYLAH

I can't! My mouth dries up and I
forget what I am saying and then I
just turn around and. Ugh. It's so
embarrassing. I need you to teach
me.

DANNY

(blushing)

Teach you?

LYLAH

Yeah! You've got to. You're so chill and you make it look easy. Please-ease-ease-ease.

DANNY

Oh, I don't know. There's not really much--

GIGI

(cuts Danny off)

Much to argue about. Danny will definitely teach you. How great is that.

LYLAH

That is so great. Thank you so much. Oh my god, this is going to be awesome.

Lylah exits the classroom. Gigi and Danny linger a minute.

DANNY

Gig! Why'd you make me say yes to her?! I don't know how to--

GIGI

She's a cheerleader!

DANNY

We hate cheerleaders.

GIGI

Correction. You hate cheerleaders.

DANNY

Yeah! Because they're mean and shallow and they're always so obsessed with talking to boys.

GIGI

You mean they're girls?

DANNY

You know what I mean.

GIGI

Think about it. If you teach Lylah to talk to Matt, she'll become our friend. And then, when she's our friend, she will invite us to parties. And when she invites us to parties, other boys will be there. Are you catching on yet?

DANNY

You want me to teach her how to get dates so we can steal her dates?

GIGI

Abundance, Danny. The principle of abundance says that there is more than enough for everybody.

DANNY

Gross.

GIGI

Have you gotten your period yet?

DANNY

Excuse me?!

GIGI

You heard me.

DANNY

Oh my god, Gigi. Yes. Why?

GIGI

Well, don't you like, think about boys?

DANNY

What does that have to do with getting my period.

GIGI

Duh, puberty. You might want to get yourself checked out. There may be something wrong with you.

DANNY

Yeah. It's called intelligentitus.

They bust out laughing.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

It's still raining, but as the last bell of the day rings, kids stampede out the front door without hesitation. Gigi and Danny walk out together. Gigi tries hard to keep both of them covered by her umbrella.

GIGI

Want to come over?

DANNY

Totally! Wait. I can't.

GIGI

What? No! I haven't seen you in two weeks! I need best friend time.

DANNY

I do too! Dad told me Regina is picking me up to "pick out some fun lady things."

GIGI

What does that mean?

DANNY

That's what I said! I have no idea. I'm dreading it.

HONK - It's Regina.

GIGI

Goodluck. FaceTime me later so I can see all your new "lady things"

Danny sticks her tongue out at Gigi and then opens Regina's car door and hops in.

INT. REGINA'S SUV - CONTINUOUS

The SUV is spacious but cluttered with water bottles, shoes, and shopping bags. Top 40 music is playing on the radio.

DANNY

Hey.

REGINA

Hey, you! How was school?

DANNY

What are lady things?

REGINA

What's that, dear?

DANNY

Dad said you were picking me up so we could get lady things.

REGINA

Oh! That's just something I said so your father wouldn't ask me any more questions about what we're doing.

DANNY

What are we doing?

REGINA

Well, as you know, it's your father's and my anniversary.

Danny is quiet. She obviously didn't know or care.

REGINA (CONT'D)

Two years of marriage! Can you believe it?! So. I thought you could help me pick out an anniversary gift.

Danny is annoyed but not surprised.

DANNY

Oh. I see.

Danny tries to come up with an excuse.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You're his wife though, shouldn't you pick something out, yourself?

REGINA

Ha! Danny, you're so cute. I *am* picking out something for him. I just need your help to figure out what that is.

DANNY

Great.

REGINA

So, where to? The mall?

Danny rolls her eyes.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - LATER

Danny leans on a garment rack in the Men's section as Regina looks at two pairs of seemingly identical khakis.

DING - Danny pulls out her phone. A text message from an unknown number reads:

REGINA (CONT'D)

*Hey girl, it's Lylah. Tomorrow
after school - teach me to talk
without putting my *foot emoji* in
mouth emoji tysm!*

REGINA

What do you think, left or right?

Danny is startled and puts her phone in her pocket.

DANNY

I think they look identical. Can
we go now?

REGINA

Danielle, this is important.

DANNY

Please don't call me that.

REGINA

Why, it's beautiful. It's much
better than Dan-ny

DANNY

Because it's not my name. My name
is Danny.

REGINA

I still don't understand why your
mother named you a boy's name.

Danny is equal parts offended and embarrassed.

DANNY

It's not a boy's name. Ugh. Can we
just go. Please?

REGINA

OK. I'll just get both.

DANNY

Don't get both.

Danny gives up and turns around to face a standing rack of
car stuff. She grabs a fancy over the seat organizer.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Here. He'll actually use this. And
if it's not enough, they have a
scrubbing brush for washing the
car too.

Regina smiles and picks up the brush. Finally, Danny has done the work for her.

EXT. DANNY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Regina's SUV pulls up in the driveway and into the garage.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jeff is cooking something special. He wears a comical apron and dances around as he adds things to the food on the stove. He loves what he is doing.

Danny and Regina ENTER and approach the stove.

DANNY

Hey, Dad.

JEFF

Well, hello my lovely ladies! How was girl time?

Regina gives Jeff a big embarrassing kiss. Danny makes a grossed out face and walks out of the kitchen toward the stairs.

REGINA

It was fantastic. What are you cooking?

The dialogue fades out as we follow Danny upstairs.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny is exhausted, but she hasn't touched the medallion all day and her curiosity is strong. She grabs it from her dresser and then hops on her bed and opens her laptop to do more googling.

She types into the search bar:

Ancient civilizations Peru

Results include websites about the Inca.

She scrolls down and eventually clicks on a website. Her eyes start to close as she reads. She blinks hard to stay awake. We see - there's a video in the article. It's titled: The Inca creation story. She clicks on it and we see what she sees:

Cartoon shows the deity, Viracocha against a gray background.

NARRATOR

In the beginning, Viracocha created a race of giants. These giants were given a precept to govern their behavior on earth.

Viracocha makes giants.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

At first, the giants lived in harmony, following the precept. But as years went by, they grew prideful and covetous. When Viracocha could take no more, he sent a flood to destroy them.

The giants fight with each other and then notice that it is raining.

All of a sudden, Danny is INSIDE the cartoon. She looks around at the giants and then feels the rain on herself. She gets nervous.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

It rained for sixty days and sixty nights until the water was taller than the Andes mountains.

Danny is in a cartoon reed boat floating as the water rises.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Satisfied that all the giants had perished, Viracocha let the waters recede, leaving only Lake Titicaca as a memorial.

The water recedes and we see Lake Titicaca surrounded by land. Danny is still in the reed boat, watching as Viracocha gathers mud from the shore.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

It was there that Viracocha created mankind. Out of the mud of the lake he formed them, breathing into them his breath of life.

Viracocha forms a medallion and shows it to the people he creates. Danny is looking on from afar - WIDE EYED.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Mankind delighted Viracocha so he fashioned for them a medallion made of copper and gold. On it, he inscribed his precept for life and after teaching it to them, he placed it at the bottom of the lake to protect them from destruction. As long as the medallion remains in the lake, Viracocha's precept remains in the heart of mankind and they are safe from another flood.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny SUDDENLY wakes up/sits up and comes CLOSE UP to camera

She had fallen asleep - Her hair is matted and she has drool coming out of the corner of her mouth. Her eyes are wide with TERROR.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Danny breathes hard. She is pacing back and forth in her room, staring at the medallion on her bed. Could it be the reason for the rain? Finally, she picks up her phone and FaceTimes Gigi.

DANNY
Come on, pick up, pick up.

GIGI
(not looking at the screen)
No thanks, Grandma, I don't want any carrot cake now.
(looking at screen)
Hi! So, tell me about lady things. What did you get? Was it a bra? Tell me she took you somewhere amazing or hilarious.

DANNY
Gigi. Listen. I need your help. This is serious.

GIGI
Sure! What's up. NO GRANDMA, I SAID I DON'T WANT CAKE RIGHT NOW! Sorry. Go ahead.

DANNY
I got this--

GIGI
GRANDMA, I SAID NO! MOMMMMMMM!
GRANDMA NEEDS A NEW HEARING AID BATTERY!

DANNY
GIGI!

GIGI
Sorry, she's deaf. I'm listening. Go ahead.

DANNY
Okay. I was doing one last dive in lake Titicaca.

GIGI

Oh my god, what did you say?

DANNY

Its the name of the lake, focus.

GIGI

Theres a lake named Titicaca?

DANNY

I'm ignoring you. There are accounts of sunken buildings and temples in the lake, so I was swimming around looking for artifacts. Then, I found this awesome giant disk thing and when I tried lifting it, part of it opened and there was this bright shining light.

GIGI

Whaaa - Really?

DANNY

Really! And of course I had to see what it was, so I reached my hand in there and it was this golden medallion thing. I thought it was just part of the ruins, so I figured, hey. Might as well take it as a souvenir. Right? There's gotta be lots of things like this if I'm finding it in the shallower shoreline area.

GIGI

Sure?

DANNY

But NO! There's only one medallion and it is supposed to be at the bottom of the lake to protect mankind from another flood.

GIGI

Real quick, it's humankind. No one says mankind anymore.

DANNY

Gigi, that's why it's been raining ever since I got home! It's starting to flood! I started a cataclysmic flood and it's going to destroy man--I mean humankind.

GIGI

I get it. I get it. You're feeling guilty about stealing something so you're subconscious created this wild scenario where you have to return it or the world will end.

DANNY

No, Gigi, that's not it.

GIGI

No really, I get it. My mind does weird stuff too. I once stole a tiny dinosaur from this gift shop when I was like five and then the store went out of business and I thought it was my fault because I stole that little figurine. I still have nightmares about it.

DANNY

Well, maybe you did make it go out of bus--

GIGI

Show it to me.

DANNY

Are you sure? I feel like it's going to like, curse you.

GIGI

Oh my god, Danny, you're so weird. Show it to me!

Danny shows Gigi the medallion via FaceTime.

GIGI

That's it?

Danny puts it down, embarrassed.

DANNY

Yeah. What?

GIGI

Dude, you're totally fine. It's just a trinket. You're not causing the rain, the world's not going to end, you are not responsible for the demise of the human race.

DANNY

You sure?

GIGI

I'm positive. If it's in the shallow area, somebody just dropped it when they were boating or whatever. Why don't you bring it to Science tomorrow and check it out under a microscope, I'm sure you'll find "made in china" engraved somewhere.

DANNY

Hmm. The microscope is a good idea. Gig, thank you.

Danny relaxes.

GIGI (CONT'D)

So, did Lylah contact you about helping with Matt?

DANNY

Shoot! I forgot to text her back. She wants to meet tomorrow.

GIGI

Perfect! You're going to be great.

DANNY

But I wanted to hang out with you tomorrow.

GIGI

You can hang out with me anytime. Tell her you'll meet with her.

DANNY

Ugh. Do I have to?

GIGI

Yes. And you're going to like it! Now, if you'll excuse me, Imma go get some carrot cake before it's all gone. laytah gurl.

DANNY

Byeeeeeee!

Danny ends the call and pulls up her text feed. She cautiously types in:

"Tomorrow's good. Ur welcome. Bye"

She looks at it nervously and then closes her eyes and pushes her screen.

When she opens them, she sees something.

DANNY

Dangit!

We see the screen and instead of just pushing SEND, she pushed something else too and now it says:

"Tomorrow's good. Ur welcome. Bae"

Danny types frantically, but she gets a text first.

"LOL starting our lesson early, huh."

Danny turns bright red.

DANNY

What have I done?!

Danny types, backspaces and types many times before settling on:

"Ha. Yeah. Later."

Danny throws her phone. She could not be more embarrassed if she tried. She walks over to her bed and face plants into the pillows.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. TUCSON AIRPORT - MORNING

The Mayor of Puno, Peru steps outside the airport. It's pouring but he doesn't have an umbrella. He's wearing a suit and means business. He scans left and right before continuing to walk forward to the taxi line. He hops in a cab and we PAN, watching it drive away.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Danny wakes up suddenly. Eyes wide, full of terror. We pull back and see that everything is normal. The rain still beats down outside and her alarm clock reads 7:15AM.

Danny rubs her eyes with the palms of her hands and then musters the strength to stand up.

KNOCK KNOCK

Jeff opens the door and peeks his head in.

JEFF

Oh! Good morning. I was just going to wake you. See you downstairs in a bit!

Danny gives him a sleepy thumbs up.

DANNY

(almost to herself)
Cool.

INT. DANNY'S BATHROOM/BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

This morning is different. She's actually making an effort.

Quick morning montage: Danny's hand turns the shower on. Danny brushes her teeth while she's got a towel around her head. Danny looks at herself in the mirror with a normal outfit on. Another outfit. Another outfit. Finally she's chosen an outfit. She plucks a few stray eyebrows. Fumbles with some eye liner and blush before giving up and throwing the brush into the sink. She ties her hair up but then let's it down again.

She takes a deep breath and then sighs. This is as good as it's going to get.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Danny enters the kitchen. Jeff checks the time on his Apple Watch and then notices her appearance.

JEFF

I was just going to send out a search party. I get it now though, and you look magnificent. What's the occasion?

DANNY

(embarrassed)

What. I just decided to shower, okay? Is that a crime?

JEFF

(to Regina)

Regina, darling, doesn't she look beautiful?

Regina look up from her iPad.

REGINA

Oh, wow. You look great! You know, it might be time for me to give you a little makeup tutorial. Maybe after school today?

DANNY

Can't today. Have plans.

REGINA

With a boy?

DANNY

No! Just helping a friend with something.

Jeff and Regina exchange a sly look. They don't believe her, but they are supportive.

REGINA

Okay then. Another time.

JEFF

Well, it's time we get going. I've got your tea and pop-tarts in the car already. Let's go.

Danny heads toward the door and then remembers.

DANNY

Wait. One sec. I forgot something.

Danny races upstairs.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny opens her drawer to retrieve the medallion but it's not there. She scans all around her room but doesn't see it. She turns over her covers. Not there. Under the bed. Not there. She starts freaking out and overturning everything in search of it.

She peaks her head out of her door

EXT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

DANNY

(calling downstairs)

HEY DAD, HAVE YOU SEEN A SHINY
CIRCLE DISK THING?

JEFF (O.C.)

WHAT'S THAT SWEETHEART?

DANNY

A SHINY, LIKE, GOLD MEDALLION WITH
SYMBOLS ON IT, HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

REGINA (O.C.)

Are you talking about this?

Regina walks upstairs with a cup of coffee in one hand and the medallion in the other.

DANNY

Yes! Where did you find that??

REGINA

I thought it was a decoration, so
I put it out on the credenza. It's
just beautiful.

JEFF

WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE!

Danny snatches the medallion out of Reginas hand.

DANNY
(curtly)
Thanks.

EXT. DANNY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Jeff's car reverses out of the garage. Rain is still pouring down. Pools of water are visible on the driveway and road. It's beginning to flood.

SCOOOL BELL RINGS

INT. SCIENCE CLASSROOM - LATER

Danny and Gigi whisper back and forth while their teacher drones on about chemical compounds.

GIGI
Did you bring it?

DANNY
Yeah, it's in my backpack, but I don't want to bring it out until after class.

GIGI
What about lunch?

DANNY
I'll eat after school. I don't want anyone to see me looking at it.

GIGI
Why?

DANNY
Because I don't want to look stupid if it is a fake.

GIGI
L.O.L. you're so weird.

SCIENCE TEACHER
Danny, why don't you give us the answer this time.

Danny freezes. She doesn't know the question.

DANNY
Yes. Well...

Danny scans the board trying to figure out what the teacher is asking. She see's H2O written and gives her best guess.

DANNY

Two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom?

SCIENCE TEACHER

Not at all what we're looking for. Gigi?

GIGI

Sorry. I don't know what you are looking for either.

SCIENCE TEACHER

That's what I thought. Now, why don't you both do a little more listening and a lot less chatting.

Danny and Gigi blush and bow there heads toward him in agreement.

SCIENCE TEACHER (CONT'D)

Now, class. I've got several different solutions up here and I want you each to do a test and then write the molecular structure down.

INT. SCHOOL ENTRYWAY - LATER

The Mayor enters the school, sopping wet. He's annoyed and tries to wipe off some of the water. He is unsuccessful and makes his way down the hall.

He peeks through the glass window of a classroom door, then the next, across the hall. He doesn't know what Danny looks like, so he's very grumpy.

RING - Class is dismissed. Hundreds of kids flood into the hall. Loud noises -- kids talking, shoes squeaking on the floor, lockers being opened and closed.

The Mayor keeps walking purposefully down the hall. He grabs a few people's backpacks to see if there are any rips. He is met by some confused looks and some mad looks. They assume he's a teacher, but are annoyed none the less.

As the kids disperse into different classrooms and the cafeteria, the mayor begins to get discouraged. He keeps checking classrooms by peeking through the door windows. He peeks into the SCIENCE ROOM and sees an empty classroom.

He begins to walk away but does a double-take. Danny is looking into a microscope with something shiny and golden underneath it.

INT. SCIENCE CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Mayor opens the door and enters the classroom. Danny is startled and stands up. The mayor looks at the object under the microscope and recognizes it as the medallion. He runs to it.

Danny grabs it and then DIVES out of the way. She slides on the smooth linoleum floor and then pops up and runs out the door.

The mayor turns around, slipping on the smooth floor. When he regains his balance, he runs after her.

EXT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Danny is running as fast as she can. The hallway is empty now, as kids are either in their next class or in the cafeteria having lunch.

He runs after her, right on her tail. She doesn't stop, instead she turns left, quickly.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

The cafeteria is packed with kids of all shapes and sizes eating, drinking, and talking. Danny is running fast, but gets stopped between two tables situated too close to each other.

She turns around, but he is right there. She instinctively climbs onto one of the tables and then jumps to the next. The Mayor can't do this without attracting even more attention, so he walk/run's around the perimeter of the cafeteria. Danny EXITS out of a different doorway.

The Mayor makes his way to that doorway as inconspicuously as possible.

When he gets to the doorway he looks down the hall.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

We barely see Danny at the end of the hall rounding another corner. The Mayor begins to sprint now that he's out of sight of the kids.

We see Danny reaching the end of another hallway. There are stairs in front of her. She climbs them.

The mayor rounds the corner now and sees her on the stairs. He continues sprinting after her.

Danny gets to the top of the stairs. It's the second floor of the high school. She sprints down that hall and around another corner.

A teacher happens to be in the hallway holding a stack of papers. Danny almost runs into him. PAPERS fly up and form a cloud. The mayor, hot on her tail, sprints through the papers.

TEACHER

Hey! No running in the halls!

Danny rounds another corner and sees a door that says:

ROOF ACCESS ONLY

Danny opens the door and races inside.

INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

Danny climbs the stairs.

BAM - the door opens. Danny looks down and we see the Mayor burst into the stairwell.

Danny keeps running and comes to another door and EXITS the stairwell.

EXT. ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Pouring rain. THUNDER. LIGHTNING. Danny runs as far as she can, until she reaches the edge of the roof. There's no where to go.

The mayor bursts through the roof door. He's got her cornered.

Danny doesn't know what to do! Instinctively she holds the medallion over the edge of the roof.

MAYOR

(in broken English)

I wouldn't do that.

Danny holds her ground and tries to be brave. She's terrified. LIGHTNING flashes and we hear the CRACK of thunder immediately. They're in the middle of the storm.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT. ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Danny stands with her arm over the ledge. Gripping the medallion tightly. The storm is raging all around them.

MAYOR

You don't know what you have stolen.

Danny shivers in the rain.

DANNY

It's not what you think it is. It wasn't on the bottom of the lake. I'm just a kid, I can't swim down that far. It was up with the reeds. It's just a worthless trinket somebody lost.

MAYOR

It's not that easy. The lake has undergone many stages throughout history. Droughts, earthquakes, heavy rains. They all impact the depth and shape of the lake. It is true that the lake has existed ever since the flood, but it has not always existed in the same way.

DANNY

What are you saying, the legend is true?

The mayor nods.

MAYOR

It must be returned to the lake.

Danny looks at the medallion, stunned.

DANNY

It's Viracocha's medallion?

MAYOR

Don't you see? All this rain? If you don't give it back, humanity is doomed.

DANNY

Why should I trust you?

MAYOR

My name is Eduardo Patchama and I am the mayor of Puno, Peru. I love my people. I love my town. I don't want to watch it drown simply because one kid wanted a free souvenir.

DANNY

You really believe it's the medallion?

MAYOR

I do. And you do too.

Lightning strikes between them. It's terrifying.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

The proof is all around us.

Danny, still holding the medallion over the edge, stares into the Mayors EYES trying desperately to disbelieve.

A beat.

Danny slowly brings her arm back to her side, keeping the medallion firmly in her hand. They maintain eye contact as Danny walks toward him.

DANNY

I didn't mean for this to happen.

MAYOR

I know.

Danny hands him the medallion. He takes it and puts it in the inside pocket of his sport coat.

DANNY

Are you going to turn me in?

MAYOR

No.

DANNY

Can I ask why?

MAYOR

Viracocha is a forgiving god. You did the right thing.

He puts a hand on her shoulder.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

I must go now.

He turns to go.

DANNY

Wait.

The mayor looks back.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Thank you.

MAYOR

Your welcome... I don't know your name.

DANNY

Danny. Danny Jones.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. DANNY'S HOUSE - MORNING

The sun is shining. Birds are chirping. There's greenery for the first time in a long time. It's a new day, in more ways than one.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Danny is fast asleep.

KNOCK KNOCK

Jeff opens the door a crack and peaks his head in.

JEFF

Morning, honey. Time to wake up!

Danny's eyes open a crack. She yawns and stretches her arms out.

JEFF

It's a beautiful day today. I even made a proper breakfast! Come down when you're ready.

Danny nods. Still waking up. Jeff shuts the door. Danny is alone in her room. She looks out her window. She cannot believe it. It's actually sunny and dry.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Jeff and Regina are sitting down at the kitchen table smiling and talking to each other. Danny arrives and sits down at the table where a plate has been prepared for her.

Pancakes, in the shape of pyramids and an animal cracker lion in front of them.

DANNY
(lying)
Wow. Dad.. This looks... great.

JEFF
Do you like the...shapes?

DANNY
(oblivious)
Um... sure? Very creative.

Danny begins to slice into one with her fork. She raises the fork to her mouth but hesitates - Jeff and Regina STARE.

DANNY
What am I missing here?

JEFF
The shapes - they're pyramids!

DANNY
(Still not getting it)
Cool.

Jeff STANDS - Too excited to wait for her to figure it out. He slaps his napkin down on his chair and spreads his arms out wide.

JEFF
I got my next assignment. WE'RE
GOING TO EGYPT!!

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT