

ACT [3]

SCENE [1]

([The characters appear out of context of the ship and each other though they occasionally address each other, in spotlight spaces apart from one another.])

5

(to the audience)

Wait

(there is a great pause. to themselves)

Wait

3

As a child, I mimicked every sound around me- every voice I heard, every device, every tool. It drove my ma mad, the cacophony of cleaning supplies and the vacuum and the child following you around also sounding like a vacuum, until the day I almost died in the mangle- it caught my clothes and twisted me up and I couldn't breathe or make a sound like for once there was quiet for once there wasn't a double orchestra of tiny lungs and washing machine all strings and brass and woodwinds, just the oboe whine of the mangle stuck on something and the untimely thump thump thump of my little arms and legs against it- the worst percussion section ever and she must have thought

5

Wait-

3

She ran through the silence to me and pulled my dress fromm the mangle, my face purple as a butterfly

5

Wait I'm not ready

3

I couldn't talk for weeks after that. When my voice came back she always seemed so happy to hear me- would give me a look to hush me around the real people, but at night in our little bed ma would say

5

Wait

3

don't put your head in the moon's whisper just yet,  
 love. Can you sing the lady we saw in pink today? and  
 I would do her accent, over and over, until ma fell  
 asleep in our little bed. You make fun of my accent,  
 but I know I could be the lady in pink if I wanted, I  
 could be you.

5

Wait just... give me a moment.

(there is a great pause. collecting  
 themselves.)

So, here's the thing. The universe is vast, and  
 constantly expanding- we have nothing but time. But I  
 know too, that this has gone on too long. But still,  
 let's take the time and do this right.

4

Cancer. Cancer.

1

The constellations change based on where you are, but  
 you have to go pretty far for them to start to be  
 confusing.

4

Diseases that have to do with stress- accumulation of  
 cortisol, anxiety, depression, digestive problems

4 &amp; 3

Headaches, muscle tension and pain, heart disease,  
 heart attack

4

(to 3)

Stop it. You're not me.

(back to the audience)

Heart disease, heart attack

1

Cassiopea

4

High blood pressure

	1
Formax	
	4
Stroke	
	1
Horologium	
	4
Sleep problems and the chronic issues caused by chronic sleep disorders	
	1
Vela	
	4&5
Weight (Wait)	
	4
gain,	
	4&5
weight (Wait)	
	4
loss	
	1
Delphinus	
	4
Memory and concentration impairment	
	1
Circinus	
	4
We are dying. I see us dying every. day. Bodies and minds	
	3&4
Mangled	
	4
little lives	

3&amp;4

silenced

4

Every DAY I see it. For what. Your stargazing? Your  
faceless corporations? We are poisoned, or just as  
bad, flung

ALL

into space

4

to have our bones decay and our hearts weaken more so  
that we can mine your asteroids or iron your sheets  
it's

(struggles not to swear)

disgusting. I would burn it all down if I could.

2 &amp; 4

right now

4

there is no redeeming them, and honestly, there's no  
time to

4&amp;5

wait.

3

(to 4)

You care so much. But you're so angry. You give them  
too much credit. They're not leeches or villains.  
They're not

3&amp;4

superhuman

3

even

3&amp;4

with their genetic engineering

3

they're still human. They can be reasoned with, if  
you'd just give them a chance. Give them a reason.

3 (Continued)

They get sick too, they break their arms and cry, they  
say ridiculous things, and they fall in love too

4

Oh.

3

they smile and hold hands and give each other  
meaningful glances and

4

I miss you

3

I haven't gone anywhere

4

you know what I mean

3

I haven't gone anywhere

4

always singing and telling these stories,

ALL

I could lose myself in those moments, my head in the  
crook of your shoulder, knowing that time stretches on  
beyond any sightline, that it slows and stops here  
like the event horizon around a black hole.

3

I am still here, even if we're no longer lovers

ALL

I am still there, feeling the rise and fall of your  
chest, listening to your voice,

5

Listening to you

2

No, to you. I won't

2&amp;5

wait

5

a second more

2&amp;5

that's what I like about you. immediate and perpetual.

5

I have been building, taking my time, trying to figure out the best way about this. I think we need to start over. I think we need to give ourselves a chance.

2

Okay!

5

Wait! Not yet. I want to savor this moment I want to look into your eyes. I'm afraid I will not think to look at your eyes. It may be a long time.

2

I trust you.

5

Why?

2

Because you have thought it through. It's going to be okay, it's going to work out. Here we go!

5

Wait!