

SCENE I

INT. HOOKAH BAR - NIGHT

KATE and BROOKLYN return from the bar with their drinks.

Sean's girlfriend, KATE, 27, quirky and spirited, balances a Cosmo drink in her hand.

BROOKLYN, 26, captures Bastion's attention. She is dressed like a bohemian soothsayer; a cross between 5th Avenue elegance and a 6th Century Merovingian Queen. She carries herself well with a tinge of decadence, and sips from a glass goblet twice the size of her hand.

KATE

Hey stranger!
(hugs Bastion)
This is my friend Brooklyn.

BASTION

(to Brooklyn)
Hello, nice to meet you.

KATE

Sean, can we talk for a second?
(to everyone)
Excuse us. We'll be right back.

Kate and Sean leave. Brooklyn sits down.

BASTION

So, how do you know Kate?

BROOKLYN

I met her when Sinatra got sick.
My dog. She's my vet. Sinatra's my
dog. Kate's my vet.

BASTION

Let me guess. Sinatra's a Husky.

BROOKLYN

Ol' Blue Eyes. So what do you do?

BASTION

I go to school. I'm a neuroscience
major.

BROOKLYN

Where do you go?

BASTION
(sarcasm)
I go to the neuroscience place.

Brooklyn lowers her eyelids.

BASTION
So, what do you do?

BROOKLYN
I'm a gypsy.

BASTION
A gypsy? What's that even mean?

BROOKLYN
(sarcasm)
I go to hookah bars, I meet non-gypsies like you; and I tell them what gypsies are.

Bastion laughs to himself.

BASTION
That's cool. What's my fortune?

BROOKLYN
Let me see your hand.

Brooklyn takes his arm and rests it on her lap. She uses her index finger to follow the lines on his palm.

BROOKLYN
This here is your life line. It looks really long. That's a good sign.

BASTION
(grins deeply)
That is a good sign.

BROOKLYN
It means a long life.
(softens her touch)
This here is your love line. Let me see... it looks a little thin.

Bastion lowers his eyelids.

BROOKLYN
Oh, and this... this represents your fate.

BASTION
I don't see anything.

BROOKLYN
Mmmm. That's interesting.

BASTION
What?

BROOKLYN
I don't think I've seen this
before. If you follow this crease
here, it splits. See my hand?

Brooklyn shows Bastion her palm.

BROOKLYN
No split.

BASTION
Okay, so what's that mean?

Brooklyn smiles. Kate and Sean return.

KATE
I thought you guys would be texting
by now.

BROOKLYN
(to Kate)
Would you like to see my crystal
ball?

SCENE II

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - DAY

Bastion sits at a table sulking. He's solving another SUDOKU PUZZLE, drinking his COFFEE.

BROOKLYN

Bastion?

BASTION

Hey, Brooklyn. What's going on?

BROOKLYN

How have you been?

Brooklyn joins him.

BASTION

I've been alright. Whatcha got there?

BROOKLYN

Just another horror book. It's about a midget who goes on a quest to save the world with his magic wand.

BASTION

I tried palm reading the other day.

BROOKLYN

Really?

BASTION

...on my grandma. She had way too many wrinkles.

Bastion draws the HANGMAN GAME using NINE DASHES.

BROOKLYN

That's funny. You've got to start out slow and work your way up.

Brooklyn sets down a small, paper bag and pulls out a FRESHLY BAKED BROWNIE.

BROOKLYN

Most people can't relate.

BASTION

I do.

Bastion slides his hand-written, HANGMAN GAME over to Brooklyn. The clue reads: "C H _ M _ S _ R Y."

BASTION

That's a cool looking necklace.

BROOKLYN

Oh this? This is my Orgone pendant.
(she holds it)
It keeps negative people out of my life.

BASTION

Is that so?

BROOKLYN

Energy vampires; things that suck the life out of you.

BASTION

I don't know much about magic, but I'm pretty sure, I'm not the most vibrant person in the world. Shouldn't that thing be glowing or something?

BROOKLYN

It's not magic. It's energy. You've heard of EMF, right? Electromagnetic fields? Our bodies are constantly exposed to it. My pendant protects me.

BASTION

Have you ever heard of DSL energy? My body's constantly exposed to it.

BROOKLYN

(laughs)
You're so stupid.

BASTION

I don't think I own anything cool like that. There is this really unusual bookstore nearby. They sell these seeds that aren't labeled, so you don't know what you're getting.

Brooklyn gives Bastion the middle finger.

BASTION

(entertained)
No really! They sell these seeds.
(MORE)

BASTION (CONT'D)

You plant them, water them, and
watch them grow. Just like magic.
It's suppose to remind you about
what's important.

Bastion laughs. Brooklyn lowers her finger.

BROOKLYN

So, what's important to you?

Bastion looks directly into Brooklyn's eyes.