



Awake

Chapter 10 *Transcript*

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Cast:

Hina: Rielle Braid
Janelle: Jae Jae Lopez
Robbie: Jesse Hodson
Rosa: Annemieke Wade
Travis: Alex O'Shea
Seb: Adam Ford

Special Thanks

Leena Soussi
Sharif E. and his daughter Aya
Phu Nguyen

Note: Due to last-minute audio changes, transcript may not match final audio script exactly.



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[Scene opens in the brig. Hina and Rosa are sitting together.]

ROSA (tired): Persephone, send a private message to Robbie. Tell him--

[tone]

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Robbie has 22 unplayed private messages in his inbox.

HINA: He still hasn't listened to them?

ROSA: Well, either that, or he *did* listen to them but had Persephone mark them as unplayed.

ROSA: [sighs] We can't exactly trust Persephone's information right now. Robbie can work around a lot of things, and, well...

[pause]

HINA: Persephone's trying to protect him.

ROSA: In a manner of speaking.

[pause]

HINA: Let's try the video again.

ROSA: Right. Persephone, pull up classified log video H553624. Password--

[Code Green alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Access denied.

ROSA: Persephone, I'm the one who locked the video down in the first place. But we need to prove Robbie--

[Code Green alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Access denied.

ROSA: Ugh! Robbie's blocking us from it. (quieter) He doesn't...want you to see the security footage from Naveen's death.

[pause]

ROSA: It proves his innocence, I swear to you. It was reviewed by *everyone* in the last crew. I think he's just...shutting down in panic right now. Once he loosens up, I'm sure he'll understand that... [trails off]

HINA: Travis won't let you out of here until we see the video.

ROSA: That's fine--I'm not worried about *that* right now. [sighs]

[long pause]

HINA: It's not...*Persephone* locking the video, is it? Exactly how much can *Persephone* do under her own free will?

ROSA: She...doesn't have free will, exactly--she follows algorithms. She has countless limitations, but she's allowed to act without prompting if the transport is in danger.

HINA: And she thinks Robbie being in danger puts the *transport* in danger.

[pause]

HINA: This is scary as hell.

ROSA: Look, we just...need to work things out with Robbie. Then *Persephone* won't think he's in danger, *and* he can stop with her if she starts getting...strange.

[pause]

HINA: He couldn't stop *Persephone* when she killed Naveen.

ROSA: Nngh.

HINA (a little frustrated): You were the one who coaxed out Robbie last time he hid in the bowels of this ship like this, right?

ROSA: Yes.

HINA (frustrated): God, why won't he even listen to your messages? [pause]
Persephone, I wanna record a private message for Robbie.

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Robbie has 22 unplayed private messages in his inbox.

HINA (interrupting above): I know, that's okay.

HINA: Can you record me now?

PERSEPHONE: Recording private message from Hina Hwan.

HINA: Robbie, look. We talked to Rosa and we know the truth. *No one's* blaming you for what happened. Just come out of the ship so we can... (gets a little worked up) Just come back to us? Please?

[tone]

PERSEPHONE: Would you like to review your message?

HINA: I don't need to review it. Just send it to Robbie, please.

[tone]

[silence]

HINA: I wonder if Janelle's message got through. Maybe he'll listen to her. [pause] (quieter) If she's family.

ROSA: [sighs] I don't know anymore.

[pause]

HINA: You've known him 22 years. Is that...longer than when he was with his mother?

[pause]

ROSA: He was about 10 when we forced Jamilah back into her pod. So...yes.

[long pause]

HINA: I know he...really cares about you, Rosa.

ROSA: Hnngh.

HINA: No, really. When we were investigating Naveen behind your back, he kept begging us to stop suspecting you. He defended you, even though it...could've given him away, I guess.

ROSA: Unless he was *trying* to give himself away.

HINA: Huh?

ROSA: He...nnggh. Hina, Robbie didn't want to hide Naveen's death when it happened. Our current captain at the time made the call, and the rest of the crew agreed with it...except for Robbie. He wanted to face whatever punishment he deserved.

HINA: What punishment did he *deserve*?

ROSA: That's the thing--no one thought he deserved to be punished, period. There are protocols in place for accidental manslaughter, but Robbie's case is unique, so even *those* didn't seem appropriate. The entire crew agreed that it was an accident and he wasn't to blame.

ROSA: But Robbie can't forgive himself. I think...I think he *wanted* this to come out. So he could face it again, as an adult, with new crew members who weren't biased by seeing him as a little boy... [trails off]

ROSA (quieter): That's one of my theories, anyway. But I'm driving myself crazy thinking in circles. I don't know how to process *any* of this anymore.

[pause]

ROSA: More than two decades of this. I'm *tired*, Hina.

[pause]

HINA: You don't have a lot of your term left.

ROSA: Nn. Two and a half years...I go back in my pod 6 months after Robbie goes into Naveen's.

HINA: How will he get in Naveen's pod?

ROSA: Naveen's I.D. chip. The medic implanted it into Robbie--it's on the outside of the skull, so it's minor surgery. Our medic just couldn't implant the emergency failsafe nodes. That would require delicate brain surgery we couldn't manage on the ship.

HINA: Right.

HINA: Two and half years...and you'll see your wife and kids again.

ROSA: [weak noise]

HINA: I'm sorry, I didn't mean to...

ROSA (tearful): Fang Hua knew this would happen. She knew I would try to...replace the missing parts of my life when we were apart for so long. She gave me... (chokes up) She gave me permission to touch another woman, even if the lord didn't approve.

HINA: Rosa...

ROSA: I didn't want to do it. I thought my faith was stronger than...

ROSA: [swallows sob]

[long pause]

HINA: Was it...Jamilah?

[long pause]

ROSA: [sniffs]

ROSA (rallying, calming down): Jamilah, bless her, she was under so much stress with everything. She was just looking for some stability and comfort...

[long pause]

HINA (very quiet): And so were you, I bet.

[long pause]

ROSA: [shaky breath] The love of my life is frozen in time. And being away from her so long...changed me.

[long pause]

ROSA: But I asked the lord to forgive me. And once Jamilah was back in cryogenic sleep, I thought I could move on with my life, but...

ROSA: [lets out heavy breath] Then...Janelle woke up.

[long pause]

HINA: Uh...have you and Janelle ever--

ROSA (a little fast): Janelle doesn't know any of this. And I'd like to keep it that way. [pause] My relationship with Jamilah was...very private. And I've never had *anything* of that sort with Janelle. I wouldn't dream of it.

ROSA (a little quieter): I know Janelle doesn't see me that way. It's...a relief, honestly. [sighs] She's just a living reminder of the second woman I lost. Of my...indiscretion. And that's made things...harder.

[pause]

ROSA: [sighs] (almost rueful) Not that things were easy *before* she woke up. Not when every single day, Robbie looks at me with Jamilah's eyes.

[long pause]

[Hina abruptly gets up]

HINA: I...do you mind if I go? I just...need some space to think.

ROSA: By all means. I'll keep trying Robbie.

HINA: Yeah, uh...yeah. You do that. [louder] Persephone, let me out of the brig.

[The door opens. Hina walks out of the room, the door shutting behind her. Rosa's next lines are muffled/fade as she walks down the hall.]

ROSA: [sighs] Persephone, I'd like to record another private message for Robbie.

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Robbie has 22 unplayed private messages in his inbox.

[Hina walks down the hall. She arrives at her room.]

HINA: Persephone, let me into my room and close the door behind me.

[The door opens, she walks inside.]

[Bedsprings creak as she sits on the bed]

HINA: [takes a breath] Persephone...bring up the security footage for me. Um...classified log video H553624. Password...crap what was that?

[Code Green alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Access denied.

HINA: Password, um... [quieter] "It takes a village."

[Code Green alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Access denied.

HINA: Please, Persephone. Password “it takes a village.” I need to review it to...
[weaker] to help Robbie.

[Code Green alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Access denied.

HINA: Persephone, tell Robbie to override the Code Green! Tell him... Persephone,
connect me to Robbie! Just pipe me through--I don't need a private line!

[error noise]

PERSEPHONE: Robbie cannot be contacted. Would you like to leave a message?

HINA: Ugh!

[error noise]

PERSEPHONE: Warning, Hina Hwan. Your aggression levels are approaching
maximum.

Hina: [falls back on bed]

[pause]

HINA: [takes a few long breaths] Persephone...I want to send him a text message. Can I
do that?

[pause]

[positive tone]

PERSEPHONE: Please type message on the terminal.

[The bed creaks as she sits up. Hina types out a message.]

HINA: That's a private message, Persephone. Please send it to him.

[tone]

HINA: [sighs]

HINA (weakly, to herself): What am I even doing anymore?

[long pause]

[good tone]

PERSEPHONE: Override accepted. Classified log video H553624 on terminal.

HINA (overlapping with above): Huh?

HINA (a little hopeful): Really?

[long pause]

HINA: [swallows] (whispers) This is it...

[tone, video starts]

NAVEEN (frustrated): ...already told you, Robbie. DO NOT TOUCH the automated oxygen protocols in hydroponics.

ROBBIE (age 16): But...they had to be fixed! And you were so busy--

NAVEEN: I'm the technician--not you. You're confusing Persephone.

ROBBIE: I have my own overrides. I'm not using your clearance codes or anything.

NAVEEN: That's EXACTLY the problem. Persephone's not prepared to process two simultaneous technicians.

ROBBIE: Th-that's not... [a little louder] Persephone, is it okay if I work on you while Naveen does?

PERSEPHONE: Of course, Robbie.

NAVEEN: Robbie, she's not a person. Her *opinion* doesn't mean anything.

ROBBIE: Sure it does. If she had an error or an inconsistency, we'd get an alert--

NAVEEN: Assuming she knew how to *process* the error! You're introducing unknown elements into her that could gum up her normal algorithms. Don't screw with a system that's been working for 600 years!

ROBBIE: Then...then what am I supposed to do all day?!

NAVEEN (frustrated/tired): Robbie, you're not a little boy anymore. Find a way to entertain yourself and stop playing with this ship like she was your toy! [sighs] I can't believe I have to have this conversation with you. Grow up!

ROBBIE (shaky): I-I...b-but...

[long pause]

[Robbie starts getting upset]

NAVEEN: For God's sake, Robbie.

ROBBIE (choking down a sob): I-I'm not...I...

NAVEEN: I barely raised my voice. Stop being oversensitive.

ROBBIE: I'm not...oversensitive.

[Robbie stammers more, still upset.]

NAVEEN: [sighs angrily] This is your mother's fault.

ROBBIE: Don't say that!

NAVEEN: She didn't discipline you, she didn't give you the attention you needed...she didn't know the first thing about being a mother. And she still thought she knew better than everyone else. (darkly) If Jamilah had let *me* raise you, you would have a damn spine.

ROBBIE (broken up, lashing): She... At least she LOVED me!

NAVEEN: Love is meaningless without *duty*, Robbie. Love is cheap. [a little quieter] You wouldn't understand.

ROBBIE: Of COURSE I understand! Y-you remind me every day of what everyone had to *give up* because of me! On the day we put Mom in the pod--

NAVEEN (frustrated): We're not having this conversation again. What's done is done.

ROBBIE: Naveen--

NAVEEN: Robbie, *enough*.

[long pause]

ROBBIE (quiet): I don't...I don't want your pod.

NAVEEN: [angry sigh] Robbie--

ROBBIE: I don't WANT YOUR DAMN POD!

[Robbie shoves Naveen]

NAVEEN (surprised): Robbie!

PERSEPHONE: Warning, Naveen Lee. Your aggression levels are approaching maximum.

NAVEEN [intense]: Robbie, *calm down*.

ROBBIE: Just...just shut up and let me talk for once!

NAVEEN (through teeth): *Get your hands off me*.

ROBBIE (aggressive but tearful): I don't want you to die for me! I don't want *anything* from you!

[sounds of scuffle]

NAVEEN: Robbie--

ROBBIE (starting to panic, tearful, struggling): P-Persephone, help me!

[failsafe tone]

[Naveen inhales as the failsafe takes hold, and falls to the floor.]

[A door closes on his head with a horrible crack]

ROBBIE (in shock): Wh-what...

PERSEPHONE: Attention Ahote Jaime. Please report to A-26 for medical emergency. Naveen Lee was subdued with the failsafe shutdown.

ROBBIE (in shock): Naveen?

ROBBIE: I didn't mean...oh, God. (extreme panic) Oh, God! No...!

ROBBIE (shocked): Persephone, what did you *do*?

[tone, video stops]

HINA: [weak breath]

[tone, video restarts from earlier]

ROBBIE (aggressive but tearful): I don't want you to die for me! I don't want *anything* from you!

[sounds of scuffle]

NAVEEN: Robbie--

ROBBIE (starting to panic, tearful, struggling): P-Persephone, help me!

[tone, video stops]

NAVEEN: Robbie--

ROBBIE (starting to panic, tearful, struggling): P-Persephone, help me!

[tone, video stops]

[tone, sound of door opening, footsteps into the hallway]

ROSA: ...Well.

JANELLE: Nn.

TRAVIS (slightly defensive, as always): You're not getting your captain's powers back yet. Janelle is still acting captain.

ROSA: I know.

TRAVIS: There's *nothing saying* we won't put you back in the brig after this. If we all decide you deserve it.

ROSA: I understand.

[long pause]

JANELLE: But...locking you in Seb's old sty for more than 36 hours might be considered cruel and unusual punishment.

HINA: [chuckles]

SEB: Hey.

[long pause]

SEB (careful, but friendly): Welcome back.

JANELLE: What's your update on Robbie?

ROSA: [sighs] Well, he hasn't *responded* to anything, that's for sure. But it looks like he's played at least some of the messages. Have you all been sending them?

JANELLE: Yeah.

SEB: Yeah.

TRAVIS: Nn.

ROSA: And you didn't send anything *threatening*, did you? [pause] Traaavis?

TRAVIS: Of course I didn't! I'm not stupid enough to try to piss him off!

SEB: Calm down, Travis.

TRAVIS: [breath] I know, I know. We're all...(awkward) friends here. And even *I* can't argue with that video. It's obvious Robbie didn't mean to really hurt Naveen.

SEB: It...It was an accident.

JANELLE: Right.

[pause]

ROSA: Hina? You're being very quiet.

HINA: Sorry.

[long pause]

JANELLE: Do you think...Robbie's watching us now?

SEB: Maybe. We only ever told him private rooms are off-limits.

[long pause]

ROSA: Robbie...can you hear me?

ROSA: Everyone wants you to come back, Robbie. No one blames you for what happened. And...and it's what's best for this transport. Persephone needs all six of us working together.

[error sound]

PERSEPHONE: Incorrect. Please try again.

TRAVIS: Uh-oh.

JANELLE: Robbie...forget about what's best for this transport. We *want* you back. (a little quieter) I want to...start over with you, now that I know the truth.

[long pause]

[tone]

ROBBIE (fuzzy through monitor): J-Janelle?

JANELLE: Robbie!

ROBBIE: Um...I'm sorry, Janelle. I'm sorry I could never tell you... [trails off]

ROSA: Robbie...

ROBBIE: Rosa, I'm sorry, I...I don't mean to ignore you, I just...

ROSA (gentle): It's okay, Robbie. (quieter) Janelle's your *real* family.

ROBBIE: No, I don't *care* about blood. You're my family, too, Rosa.

[long pause]

ROBBIE: But...I wanna talk to Hina.

JANELLE: Oh.

HINA: ...I'm here, Robbie.

ROBBIE: I...I wanna talk in person, please. Can you...come to me?

TRAVIS: What?

HINA: Where are you?

ROBBIE: I'll...meet you in hydroponics. Where I brought you last time. I'll send directions...

[tone]

ROBBIE: Persephone will let you in. I'll tell her to.

[long pause]

TRAVIS (a little defensive but careful): We're not sending her in alone, Robbie.

ROBBIE: Travis...

SEB: Robbie, you understand why we think that's dangerous. You respect that, right?

ROBBIE: P-please, I just--

HINA: It's okay, Robbie. I'll come alone.

[tone as Robbie disconnects]

HINA: I'll be okay.

TRAVIS: Hina--

HINA (cutting him off, firm): *Thank you for the concern*, but I can do this. I'm not scared.

TRAVIS: Maybe you should be.

[pause]

JANELLE: Be careful, Hina.

ROSA: Take care of yourself.

HINA: I will. [sighs] I will.

End of chapter 10.