

Voices. Episode 1: "Pilot"

By

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From the POV of a computer recording a vlog, sits an empty chair. MIRANDA, a college student, sits down in front of the computer. She has a glass of water and a bottle of pills.

Miranda chugs some water.

MIRANDA

Anyway, Dr. Stevens said I have to take this now. Avoxapine!

Miranda holds the pill bottle up and shakes it at the camera.

MIRANDA

The clozaril made me jittery and talkative. I didn't sleep for a week!

Miranda puts the pills down.

MIRANDA

Yeah, he said this new stuff might mess with me for a while, too.

Miranda pauses like she hears someone talking. The room is silent.

MIRANDA

No, stop. Yes. I am getting to that.

Miranda looks nervous, but leans in.

MIRANDA

I've decided it's time to find my dad. He's been missing for so long, and mom doesn't care about him. Not since the divorce.

Miranda holds her forehead, rubbing her temples.

MIRANDA

We have a lead. Some church. I'll update you guys later. Miranda out.

The feed cuts off.

2 INT. MIRANDA'S HOUSE - DAY 2

Bright walls and quirky decorations cover the living room.  
Miranda stumbles into sight, holding her head.  
There are muffled voices, but they aren't understandable.

MIRANDA

No! Stop!

Her shaky hands fight to open her pill bottle.

Miranda manages down a few pills, and curls up tight.

Time fades on.

She sits there for a while. Then her phone lights up. It is HENRY.

TEXT INSERT: Henry - You ready to go?

3 EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT - DAY 3

In the empty church parking lot, Miranda and HENRY lean against his car. Miranda is in sunglasses.

Henry looks at his phone.

MIRANDA

Don't let me forget to take my pills, okay?

HENRY

Word.

Henry checks his phone again.

HENRY

He should be back from lunch any second now.

MIRANDA

Good call on the recon.

They high five.

HENRY

What if we can't find your dad, Miranda? I mean, what if he's dead?

(CONTINUED)

MIRANDA

Don't say that. I have a feeling  
he's alive, anyway.

HENRY

What -- the voices?

Miranda side-eyes Henry.

Across the lot, a middle-aged gentleman walks towards the church. He has a bible and a briefcase. His name is WOODROW.

Miranda and Henry run towards him, and catch up to him.

MIRANDA

Excuse me! Mr. Woodrow?

Woodrow turns around.

WOODROW

Actually, it's just Woodrow. Or  
Pastor, if you will.

MIRANDA

Uh, yeah. Pastor Woodrow, hum.

WOODROW

Yes? Are you a member of my  
congregation? You don't look  
familiar, miss.

HENRY

She had family in the outreach  
program here, we think.

WOODROW

Who?

MIRANDA

My dad. Roger Cayce.

Woodrow furrows his brow.

WOODROW

I am unfamiliar with him. Perhaps  
he isn't a registered member, or  
you have the wrong church. If  
you'll excuse me, I have to go.

Woodrow walks off.

HENRY

That's not suspicious at all.

They exchange a glance.

4 INT. HENRY'S CAR - DAY

4

Henry and Miranda get in the car.

HENRY

Well, what are we gonna do now?

MIRANDA

Oh that? Yeah, I was expecting that.

HENRY

So what's the plan then?

Miranda takes a deep breath, like she's about to explain.

5 EXT. CHURCH - EVENING

5

Henry wedges his way into a side door of the church.

Miranda follows suit.

6 INT. CHURCH - EVENING

6

Miranda points to herself, then the right. Miranda then points to Henry, then to the left. They nod and split ways.

7 INT. CHURCH HALL - EVENING

7

Henry is zipping down a hall, tapping his hands on the walls.

HENRY

Pastor Woodrow?

He finds a stack of papers and throws them in the air.

HENRY

Hey, Pastor Woodrow!

8 INT. WOODROW'S OFFICE - EVENING.

8

Miranda opens the door to and enters Woodrow's office. It is unlocked, the lights are off.

Miranda turns the lights on. She goes over to the desk, looking it over. It is neatly organized. There is a bible on top.

A VOICE whispers to her.

VOICE (V.O.)  
Keep looking...

Miranda feels around in her pockets.

MIRANDA  
Shit... Not you again... I forgot  
my pills...

Every part of the desk is neat and organized and accessible. Except for a locked drawer. Miranda tugs at the drawer, but it won't budge.

VOICE (V.O.)  
Your fate is in this drawer.

From behind her, Woodrow's voice rings out.

WOODROW  
Can I help you?

Miranda yelps and turns around.

WOODROW  
Ah, Miranda. I was wondering when  
you would return. My staff should  
be dealing with your friend Henry  
right about now.

Miranda clutches her chest, then looks at Woodrow.

MIRANDA  
How'd you know my name?

WOODROW  
Well, Roger. He talked about you  
quite a bit.

MIRANDA  
So you do know him!

Woodrow walks around and sits at his desk.

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WOODROW

Well, yes. I didn't want to address that in the middle of the parking lot. You never know who is listening.

Woodrow gestures with his hand.

WOODROW

Have a seat.

The Voice speaks up.

VOICE (V.O.)

Play along with him... See where this goes...

Miranda sits down.

MIRANDA

Well, if you can help me, I would appreciate it. The bills are only piling up, and now collectors are calling me!

WOODROW

Well, let me check his file. I set it aside after your visit earlier. Safe keeping.

Woodrow reaches in the drawer.

There is a clasped folder full of documents, and a pistol sitting on top of it. He is careful not to touch the pistol.

VOICE (V.O.)

Don't trust him...

Woodrow opens the file.

WOODROW

Miranda, he hasn't been here in over a month -- maybe two. I'm sorry.

MIRANDA

Well, any last addresses?

Woodrow flips through.

WOODROW

Yes, actually. I'm not sure if he's still there, but he stayed at a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WOODROW (cont'd)  
 halfway house on Rollins Avenue. A  
 woman named Louisa runs it, check  
 with her.

Woodrow slides a business card with Louisa's information on  
 it.

As Woodrow waits for her response, his hand hovers over the  
 gun.

His face is deadpan as his hand finds the gun.

VOICE (V.O.)  
 Go with it for now... but we need  
 to get into that drawer.

After a minute, Miranda takes the card. She sees Woodrow's  
 arm relax.

MIRANDA  
 Thanks.

Miranda gets up and leaves.

9

EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT - DAY

9

Henry waits in the car, it is running. He's in the driver's  
 seat.

Miranda walks to the car, looking at the card. She addresses  
 the Voice.

MIRANDA  
 Am I getting worse, or are you  
 different?

VOICE (V.O.)  
 Don't mute me again. Listen to me.

MIRANDA  
 What do you want?

VOICE (V.O.)  
 First, we question Louisa. If  
 that's a dead end, we force the  
 truth out of Woodrow...  
 trust me...

Henry looks up.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

They chased me out. You get what  
you came for?

MIRANDA

Yeah, kind of.

She gets in the car.