

[clock ticking]

LANCASTER

Okay. Let me try this again.

There's... uhh... hm.

What was I talking about again?  
Dammit, I think it was important.

There's- oh. A stain on my shirt,  
for one thing. Has this been here  
all day? Why didn't anyone tell  
me?

What were we talking about?

[Click]

[Fluorescent lights hum]

KLEIN

I'm doing an experiment with  
people where we're trying to tell  
others... about...

Let me try this again. Just as an  
example, it's sort of like- okay,  
there's a part in this show where  
one of the characters can turn  
people's faces into books? That  
sounds dumb. It's cooler when you  
watch it- But he can write stuff,  
like, into their life, and then  
they can't-

They can't-

Wow, I'm completely losing my  
train of thought.

[Click]

LOVE

Waitwaitwait- no! That's not what  
I meant to say, I was talking  
about... fuck! You made me forget!  
Give me a second, it's on the tip  
of my tongue! Fuck!

[Click]

[Servers humming]

[Long pause]

RADDAGHER

This isn't working. Bye.

[Click]

HARLEY

I suppose the fact that I can say it into my radio with no weird sudden distraction or forgetfulness kind of implies that... it doesn't think anyone is listening.

...oh, well! No new information here.

Maybe I could try recording it and p... uh, something like... er, wait, no, that wouldn't- um...

You know what, nevermind.

There's a memetic effect in the site affecting everyone except for five- er, six of us, who are affected by a *different* memetic effect that prevents us from telling anybody about either of them.

Which is stupid, and I hate this very much. Anomalies are the worst.

[Static]

LOVE

That's the worst. "tHe REsEt."  
Stupid.

KLEIN

It's not up to me, it's Upper Management's decision. They wanted the name to be... explanatory.

LOVE

Aren't you their boss?

KLEIN

Technically *Shao* is everybody's boss. They're the only legitimate Level 4 in here.

LOVE

Uh, *Shao* isn't Acting Director though.

KLEIN

Only because they were one of the ones who opted out.

LANCASTER

How's the head?

KLEIN

It sure is. *Raddagher*, the hand?

RADDAGHER

Ring finger back on, pinky gone forever. Hurts a lot.

HARLEY

Can I see?

RADDAGHER

Sure.

LOVE

Oh, I want to see too!

LANCASTER

GROSS.

KLEIN

No, don't take- don't take it off, that's an order. Stay on topic. We need a course of action.

HARLEY

According to the Upper Management meeting, Engineering lost progress on the site intranet, so we're starting back at square one for that.

KLEIN

We're starting at square one for *everything*.

HARLEY

Not Botany, though. Apparently it didn't affect plants or... alive things, so the renewable food project is more or less undisturbed.

LOVE

Is that why people's injuries didn't reset either?

HARLEY

Probably.

LOVE

Sucks about the pinky.

RADDAGHER

It's fine.

LANCASTER

Everybody tried to tell someone about the memetic?

LOVE

TRIED.

KLEIN

Yeah, I couldn't get anything coherent out.

HARLEY

Yeeeeeep. Every time I tried I ended up rambling about Mandarin grammatical structure.

LANCASTER

Okay, but what happened when you tried to talk about the scip?

HARLEY

Shut uuuUUUUP.

KLEIN

Being in Research, I'm in a good position to look into the scip itself and see if there's anything we missed-

HARLEY

That's going to be hard now that  
all the notes are gone.

KLEIN

...I know. But I can safely say  
that my team's memories are still  
at least somewhat sound.  
Lancaster, I want you watching  
your patients and taking notes on  
the... other effect.

LANCASTER

Yep.

LOVE

What do I do?

KLEIN

I don't know, I'll come back to  
you later. Harley, you lost all  
your recordings?

HARLEY

Unless they made it out somewhere,  
yes, they're gone.

KLEIN

Let's be optimistic and keep going  
with those. You have lines of  
communication with everyone, yeah?

HARLEY

More or less.

KLEIN

Think you can stay in contact with  
them to keep resources in check?  
Make sure everybody's playing  
fair?

HARLEY

Is that *all* I can do?

KLEIN

Raddagher, eyes. Yeah?

RADDAGHER

Yeah.

LANCASTER

We need to find somebody else to  
be on Surveillance with her,  
remember?

KLEIN

Right. Haldi's working on it,  
Security took the brunt of the  
BC-2 recollapse so a lot of them  
were the ones that got teleported  
back into the rubble when we  
reset.

HARLEY

Who else is on Surveillance right  
now?

RADDAGHER

Just me. I'll watch the recordings  
back when we're done here.

HARLEY

What? That doesn't sound... weren't  
there other ones? It can't have  
been just you.

RADDAGHER

There were 3 of us.

LOVE

What happened to the other ones?

RADDAGHER

BC-2.

[Pause]

LOVE

Shit, dude, that really sucks. Are  
you like, okay?

RADDAGHER

Yeah.

[Pause]

LOVE

What?

KLEIN

We should move on.

RADDAGHER

Yeah.

HARLEY

So- what, you were just watching  
the cameras by yourself for eight  
hours every-

RADDAGHER

20 hours.

LANCASTER

EXCUSE ME?

LOVE

I'll take a shift.

KLEIN

You sure?

LANCASTER

SOMEBODY needs to, that is NOT  
HEALTHY-

LOVE

Seems easy. And I'd rather not  
wait for whatever else you want me  
to do. So yeah, I'll do it.

RADDAGHER

...it's a very small room.

LOVE

...why would that be an issue?

LANCASTER

Um.

LOVE

Shove it, shrink. It's not a  
problem.

KLEIN

ALRIGHT, alright. Everybody got a  
plan of action?

HARLEY

More or less.

LANCASTER

Yup.

LOVE

Sure.

KLEIN

Good. We've got work to do,  
everybody.

[Static]

LANCASTER

You shouldn't be drinking that.

HARLEY

YOU shouldn't be drinking THAT.  
You're gonna get stomach ulcers.  
Besides, I've only had one today.

LANCASTER

...fine.

HARLEY

So, found anything?

LANCASTER

Well, sort of?

[Tool bag jangling]

HARLEY

...why do you have that.

LANCASTER

I need to drill a hole in your  
wall.

[Drill revs]

HARLEY

...Okay? Also, *why*?

LANCASTER

Right before we reset, I saw  
something really weird-

HARLEY

Yeah, I *also* saw "something weird"  
during the anomalous monster fire  
that reversed time-

LANCASTER

Harley, I'm serious.

HARLEY

Alright. What was it?



LANCASTER

It looked like a glowing wire. I asked Maintenance and Engineering, nobody knows what it is. It went toward your office, so I'm assuming I can get to it from in here.

HARLEY

Alright. I mean, what's the worst that could happen? The walls put themselves back together eventually anyway.

LANCASTER

(a little excited)

Great. Alright, come over here.

[audio gets a little distant as Harley steps away from the mic]

[drill whirs]

HARLEY

Whoa, what happened to your wrist?

LANCASTER

What? Oh- that's nothing. I think- I just fell on it during the fire.

HARLEY

...pretty nasty bruise.

LANCASTER

Yeah, uh-huh. Could you hold this for me?

HARLEY

Have you gotten it checked out? That looks like it could be a hairline fracture or something.

LANCASTER

(reassuring)

Harley, it's fine.

HARLEY

(not at all reassured)

...alright.

[beat]

HARLEY

So, are you still planning on  
"therapizing" Agent Love?

LANCASTER

Um, sort of. She blew off my offer  
for sessions, but we made a  
compromise. Hand me that little  
saw.

HARLEY

The mandatory friendship  
compromise?

LANCASTER

She has to eat lunch with me for a  
minimum of 20 minutes once a week.  
It's not therapy, it's just "being  
coworkers."

HARLEY

Nice. Classic.

LANCASTER

Speaking of which-

HARLEY

Nooo.

[hand saw grinds]

LANCASTER

You're drinking again.

HARLEY

All the alcohol came back.

LANCASTER

Buddy...

HARLEY

Do you blame me?

LANCASTER

You were doing really well for a  
while. I'll bring it up with  
Rivera if you don't.

HARLEY

I'm working on it, alright?

[Pause. Saw stops]

HARLEY

Don't look at me like that.

LANCASTER

Tell me about your feelings,  
Harley.

HARLEY

No.

LANCASTER

Tell me about your feelings. I  
have a saw.

HARLEY

I feel useless.

LANCASTER

Why?

HARLEY

(half-laugh)

It's pretty clear that there's  
nothing helpful I can really do.

LANCASTER

That's not true, you-

HARLEY

Lanc, there's nothing I can do  
that **anybody else** can't **also** do.

LANCASTER

Well- maybe, but that doesn't mean  
you're useless.

HARLEY

I don't even get invited to the  
meetings.

LANCASTER

I asked about you, they said- it's  
just- it's complicated, there are  
already a lot of people in the  
room-

HARLEY

Uh huh.

LANCASTER

...I'm working on it, okay?

[Beat]

HARLEY

What about *you*? How long did it take to dig you out this time? I didn't see, I was helping get somebody out from under the rebar.

LANCASTER

It was faster than last time.

HARLEY

...Are you... good?

LANCASTER

Yep. Good.

[Long pause]

HARLEY

Hang on, is *that* what you're talking about?

LANCASTER

Huh?

HARLEY

Give me the saw.

[Sawing continues]

LANCASTER

That's it! That's the thing I saw.

HARLEY

It looks like it's *moving*.

LANCASTER

It would probably be a bad idea to pull on it, huh?

HARLEY

I would venture to guess yes.

LANCASTER

I don't think it's actually moving, I think it's just... glowing.

HARLEY

Is it a wire or a... tube?

LANCASTER

I think it might be a combination  
of both?

HARLEY

It's connected to something, look  
how far back it goes.

LANCASTER

Call Klein.

HARLEY

One step ahead of you.

[Static]

LOVE

-and so I'm all bloody and covered  
in mud from under the log thing,  
and I must have hit this kid like,  
eight times before the Sergeant  
pulled me off him. Want to know  
how many pushups I had to do for  
that one? Five hundred. In a row.  
It took me forever.

[silence]

LOVE

...you don't talk much, do you?

[pause]

LOVE

Hey-

RADDAGHER

(sharply)

Don't touch me.

LOVE

Okay. Geez.

[Another pause]

LOVE

You're really weird, you know  
that? What, were you *living* in  
here or something?

RADDAGHER

Sleeping.

LOVE

Sure. Totally not creepy. *Everyone* keeps a sleeping bag in their office.

[Pause]

LOVE

Is this all we do, then? We just stare at all those screens for twelve hours?

[pause]

LOVE

Cool. ...so can I leave, then? Pretty sure I've got it down.

RADDAGHER

Yes. Please leave.

LOVE

...I WILL.

RADDAGHER

Wait, one second-

LOVE

What?

RADDAGHER

Look. On the rift.

[Pause]

LOVE

I don't see anything.

RADDAGHER

The color.

LOVE

...it's in black and white.

RADDAGHER

No, it's lighter right there.

[Pause]

LOVE

Oh, you're right.

Is it... cracked?

RADDAGHER

No, that's impossible.

LOVE

You didn't have cameras on the scip during the blackout?

RADDAGHER

No.

LOVE

...Do you think there's something you could do to it that would... cause a huge blackout? Or reset time?

RADDAGHER

...hm.

[Static]

KLEIN

Alright, other than that, how's it going?

Uh huh. Alright. I'm getting you cleared with Hodges today, so soon you'll have some equipment to-

Oh! Good. I trust your judgement, just... try not to touch it unless you have to. We still don't know what it's for.

No- I said DON'T touch it. Don't touch it, Lancaster.

Great. If you get to a point where you need to mess with it, tell me before you do anything. I don't want any more injuries or anything on our hands, and that thing could be dangerous.

Engineering is working on the intranet again, I may see about

getting their help getting into  
Carson's computer.

Have Love or Raddagher talked to  
you yet?

Yeah, that. Uh, I wouldn't put too  
much stock into that theory? I  
mean, I've been around the scip a  
lot and I think I would have  
noticed if somebody had... hit it or  
something. And it might be a kinda  
hazardous thing to try testing  
out, so...

I'm putting a pin in that one for  
now. It's worth checking out, but...  
yeah. Don't worry about it, tell  
them not to worry about it, it's  
the kind of thing I can  
investigate myself, or tell  
Masterson about.

And this is off-topic, but did  
they happen to mention if they've  
found a third person for the  
Surveillance office?

Alright. We'll have to figure that  
out too at some point, I guess.

Thanks for the update. And let me  
know if anything weird happens or  
if you figure out what it is.

And DON'T TOUCH IT.

Alright. Godspeed, boys. Check in  
later.

[Click]

HARLEY

How do you *make* normalcy?

How do you take a hopeless,  
terrible situation and hope to  
turn it into something that just...  
feels like life? How long does it  
take before you adjust to it all?



Maybe what I should really be asking is how did we as a species get so good at turning anything mundane?

I mean- look at me. I'm sitting here longing for the days of my previous status quo. You know, the status quo where I worked for a secret shadow-government organization that contains and studies things that literally break every law known to science. That was my normal. For years. It's amazing, the things you can... get used to.

(sighs)

But hey, we've got more leads. This whole thing, the Reset, it feels a bit like a chance to restart. Maybe this time we'll get a little closer. Or we'll get a little more... evened-out. A little more normal.

I wouldn't mind relaxing for a second. It's been a long time.

I'm not... sure about the others. Lancaster's been my friend for years, but *working* with him can be... frustrating. He's stubborn. And he doesn't always listen to me. Or to other people in general.

And things would be easier with Klein if she would *tell me* what she's thinking, instead of throwing out some vague excuse or telling us she's taking care of it herself. Officer Raddagher seems... difficult, to say the least. Terse. Maybe a little misanthropic. And Agent Love-well, Agent Love is Agent Love. Pretty sure I don't have to say anything else on that.

But we can't exactly choose the cards in these situations, can we?

I'll come back with anything we  
find about that mysterious device  
in the walls. That's what I'm  
choosing to focus on.

So think upon that, Overwatch  
Command. Or whoever is out there.  
And as always, if you can, find us  
alive.

[END OF EPISODE]