

LOST LUGGAGE

Written by

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INT. CAR - DAY

The sound of the car MOVING along, the sounds of HONKING and PASSING CARS, and faint music are heard. In the car are four people, the Phillips family. All of them wear the same blue jumpsuit.

A woman, ELIZABETH(42), sits in the passenger seat on her phone.

A young woman, MARY(18), sits with a laptop on her lap and a pair of large headphones on her ears. The MUSIC is coming from the headphones, a heavy metal track.

A man, RICHARD PHILLIPS(40), sits in the driver's seat staring off into the road. He remains quiet for a time just driving along the road. He then looks into the car's front MIRROR.

In the reflection he sees his son, ROY PHILLIPS(8), looking out his window. Roy sits while biting his nails.

RICHARD
Are you excited Roy?

Roy looks over to the reflection of his father. Richard looks deeply into the reflection of Roy's EYES. Roy takes a beat before shaking his head.

ROY
Yeah Dad... I'm excited.

Roy is still BITING HIS NAILS as he tells his father this.

Richard smiles at his son.

RICHARD
I know this can be scary, I was
scared too when I first jumped.

Richard then looks over to ELIZABETH

RICHARD
Weren't you scared your first time
jumping my love?

Elizabeth looks up from her phone and takes a second to realize the question being asked.

ELIZABETH
Yes, yes I was I was really scared.

Elizabeth then turns to look at Roy.

ELIZABETH

When I was little I didn't like flying on airplanes or jumping. I was so sure that something bad was gonna happen to me.

Roy looks at his mother with wide eyes.

ROY

Are you still afraid mama?

Elizabeth gives a wide smile to her son.

ELIZABETH

A little bit, but I just try to remember that I'm gonna be okay. Just like you're going to be, you know why?

ROY

Why mama?

ELIZABETH

Because I always traveled with my mom, and just like her I won't let anything bad happen to you.

Roy GIGGLES and smiles at his mother.

Richard is still looking at Roy through the mirror and smiling. Richard laughs a little.

RICHARD

You know, when your sister was your age Roy she was also scared. Mary, do you remember when we took you on your first jump?

Mary doesn't look away from the laptop and continues to type on it. The laptop SCREEN shows the admissions page for UPenn and several tabs that are about scholarships.

Richard stops smiling.

RICHARD

Mary?

Mary still does not respond. Richard takes a few seconds.

RICHARD

Mary!

Mary finally takes off her headphones and looks at the reflection of her father.

MARY

What?

RICHARD

You know this is supposed to be a family trip, right? So turn those things off and talk to your family!

Mary rolls her eyes.

MARY

Dad, I was looking at options for schoo-

Richard lets out a long sigh

RICHARD

Mary, you know we've talked about this before. UPenn is a lot of money that we don't have. We can talk about this again after vacation ok?

MARY

But Dad-

RICHARD

Mary! Please let's stop talking about this and start thinking about vacation.

Mary huffs and slams her laptop shut and takes off her headphones. She looks out the window with her arms crossed.

Richard continues to look at her from the mirror and lets out a huff from his nose.

Elizabeth's HAND is seen in the reflection of the mirror as she reaches over to Richard.

ELIZABETH

Rick, I think it's okay for us to talk about her going. She is really set on going to Penn and I think-

RICHARD

No, this discussion is over Liz. Now, let's all start thinking about vacation.

Elizabeth keeps her hand on Richard's arm for a little bit longer until letting go and going back to her phone.

Richard continues to drive and looks one last time into the mirror to see Roy continuing to chew his nails.

INT. TELEPORTATION DOCKING BUILDING

The family walks into the building, their blue jumpsuits matching the blue decor of the main room of the building. The sound of people COMING and GOING can be heard, as well as a LOUDSPEAKER.

SPEAKER

Welcome to the Philadelphia
Teleportation Center by Nephele
Industries. Please make your way to
your designated location to begin
the onboarding process. If you have
not received your jumpsuit, please
make your way to a dressing station
to receive one. If you have your
luggage with you, please come to
the luggage delivery area. Thank
you for choosing Nephele
Teleportation for your choice of
travel.

In the room, several people walk around in the same blue jumpsuits as the Phillips wear. There are also security officers who wear black stationed around. There are several large kiosks in the room, which show an interactive map of the area. In the middle of the room is a large globe that spins around, with images popping up showing happy customers who traveled with teleportation.

Richard walks up to one of the kiosks and pulls out a small ticket. He holds it up to the screen where it is then scanned. The kiosk then speaks to Richard.

KIOSK

Hello, RICHARD PHILLIPS, you have a
planned jump today, JUNE 26 2100.
You will find your docking area
located here.

It then shows a map with a glowing red dot that says "Sending Room 7" on it.

KIOSK

You are accompanied by ELIZABETH,
MARY, and ROY PHILLIPS. Thank you
for traveling with us and we hope
to see you soon.

Richard then takes down the small ticket and places it back in his pocket. He then leads the way towards the docking room.

INT. SENDING ROOM 7

In the room, the sound of people TALKING can be heard as well as the slight HUM of a machine. Inside the room is a couple of chairs with a large floating screen in the middle of the room. There are a couple of attendants wearing white. There is one other family in the room who are waiting. There is a large door at the end of the hallway. The Phillips take their seats.

There is a large FLASH of light that creaks through the crack in the middle of the door. The screen then BEEPS and shows the name "Wilson's Party" on it.

The other family in the room sees this and gets up and leaves for the door.

Roy continues to chew his nails and holds onto his mother's jumpsuit.

ELIZABETH

Oh baby, it's going to be alright.
You don't have to worry.

One of the attendants comes over to Roy.

ATTENDANT

Are you nervous?

Roy shakes his head.

The attendant smiles and pulls out a LOLLIPOP.

ATTENDANT

Here, take this for when you get to
where you're going. It's all gonna
be ok.

Roy smiles and takes the lollipop from the man's hand.

ELIZABETH

Now what do we say?

ROY

Thank you!

Roy then stores the lollipop in his pocket.

Another FLASH comes from the door and the screen now shows the word "Richard's Party" on it. The family gets out of their seats and heads towards the door.

Inside the innermost room, the family lay down in pods with electrodes attached to their heads. A man with a hat that states TELEPORTATION OPERATOR comes over to them.

TELEPORTATION OPERATOR
Hello hello, so where you guys
going?

RICHARD
Rome, first time for all of us.

TELEPORTATION OPERATOR
Well, it's beautiful this time of
year. Now, we're going to put you
guys to sleep soon and when you
wake up you'll be over there in no
time. When you wake up you're going
to find your luggage ready for you.
Now, let's get started.

The capsules on the pods begin to close with the family now locked inside the pods. There is a slight BUZZ sound now ringing in the room.

TELEPORTATION OPERATOR
Alright everyone now sit back and
take a snooze, and when you wake up
you're going to see the beauty of
the city Rome.

Richard sits in his pod looking upwards and at the ceiling. A slight SPRAYING SOUND can be heard. His eyes begin to droop as he goes to sleep. A FLASH of light then takes over and envelops Richard. The slight sound of CRYING can be heard.

INT. RECEIVING ROOM 7 - MIDDAY

Richard opens his eyes the space around him is very bright and only the outlines of things can be seen.

The outlines of PEOPLE walk around where Richard is. The sound of their MUFFLED TALKING is heard but is mostly overtaken by the sound of RINGING. Then a person comes closer to Richard and the outline becomes a person.

TELEPORTATION OPERATOR 2

Welcome Back Sir! You left at
11:37am in Philadelphia and are now
in Italy with the time being
5:45pm. How are you feeling right
now? Any nausea or numbness?

Richard begins to move his body around to check, first he
flexes his FINGERS, kicks his LEGS out, blinks his EYES, and
rolls his HEAD around.

RICHARD
I feel good, a little groggy maybe.

TELEPORTATION OPERATOR 2
Good, nothing bad to report. Now,
let's get you out of that tube and
into the Mediterranean!

The teleportation operator holds out his HAND, and Richard
reaches out his hand to grab it.

Richard walks forward and looks groggy as he does. The world
around him is still shrouded in fuzzy light and the sound of
the room is still not fully there. But then the sound of
FOOTSTEPS can be heard as well as words that aren't
intelligible.

Roy RUNS up to his father, starting as fuzzy until becoming
fully visible and his words becoming understandable.

ROY
Dad! Dad! I did it Dad, I jumped!

Richard then picks up his son and holds him close to his face
the world around him finally coming into full picture. The
sound of the room is also now heard with the same BEEPING and
BUZZING that was heard in the sending room. The TALKING of
the operator can be heard in the background.

RICHARD
I knew you could do it!

ROY
And look Dad!

Roy pulls out the LOLLIPOP.

ROY
The lollipop I got from the nice
man was still in my pocket!

Elizabeth walks up to them from behind, looking as groggy as
Richard did.

ELIZABETH

You see, nothing to fear my
beautiful boy.

She then kisses Roy on the cheek.

ROY

Look mama, I still have the
lollipop!

Elizabeth gives her son a surprised look, the kind adults do
to make something seem of greater importance.

ELIZABETH

Wow! Aren't you lucky!

Mary comes up to them looking more sickly than the rest of
them. She has a greenish look to her now.

MARY

Hey.

The family looks over to see Mary.

ELIZABETH

Oh no, honey are you alright?

MARY

Yeah, I just feel a... little sick
now.

Elizabeth begins to check Mary with her hands and to check
her temperature. Before Richard can check on her another
Attendant comes up to him. They wear a giant smile on their
face.

ATTENDANT 2

Hello Mr. Phillips! Here is your
luggage sir. Now, we here at
Nephele Industries pride ourselves
on perfect customer service, but we
do ask that you check your luggage
to make sure that everything is
there. You shipped it out three
months early to your vacation date
so it's just to make sure that
everything is there.

RICHARD

Ok, my daughter looks a little sick
should we b-

ATTENDANT 2

Oh no, I'm sorry to hear that, you can take this ticket to the health desk so she can receive some medication that should help with that. She should be tip top shape after that.

The Attendant pulls out a small purple ticket from their pocket and hands it to Richard.

RICHARD

Thank you!

The Attendant then gives a small bow and then leaves him. The room is the same layout as the sending room with the large door now being opened as the Attendant leaves the room.

Richard then looks over to his family and smiles.

RICHARD

Okay, we have to check through our luggage quick to make sure that everything is there. And don't worry Mary were gonna get you some meds to make you feel better.

Mary is struggling through the sickness to get her mother off her.

MARY

Ok Mom, you can stop now.

ELIZABETH

I just wanted to make sure you're ok Honey.

She kisses Mary's forehead and then goes to the luggage cart with Richard.

Richard and Elizabeth then begin looking through the luggage to make sure that everything is there.

Then the BIG DOOR in front of them opens up with a worried-looking attendant, RUTH(23), coming through. She comes up to Richard and Elizabeth in a hurry.

RUTH

Hi there folks! You two are Mr. and Mrs. Phillips?

Richard and Elizabeth stop what they are doing and look up to Ruth, who is now shuffling in place.

RICHARD

Yes, that would be us.

Ruth continues to shuffle in place, she has a trembling fake smile on.

RUTH

Okay great, you see there was a...
problem that needs to be resolved.
If you could come with me, please.

Richard and Elizabeth look at each other with slight confusion. Richard then looks back at Ruth.

RICHARD

Is it a problem with the luggage,
because everything is here so-

Ruth then rushes her HANDS up to make a no sign with her hands.

RUTH

Oh no no no no! Its... something
else. Something else. I need you
two to come with me.

ELIZABETH

What about our children I don't
want to be apa-

RUTH

This is important, and we have a
movie theater they can go to for
free. So please come with me.

Elizabeth LOOKS over to Richard.

ELIZABETH

What is going on Richard?

Richard LOOKS to Mary and Roy.

RICHARD

I don't know.

Mary continues to look sickly as Roy UNWRAPS his lollipop and begins to eat it. He then looks at Richard and smiles at him.

RICHARD (O.S.)

But we better see what this problem
is. It sounds serious.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

The sound of a door OPENING is heard as Richard, Elizabeth, and Ruth come into the room.

The office has a metal table in the middle of it with four chairs around it. There's a large screen in one corner of the room, a small fan hanging above the table that makes a slight buzzing noise, with fluorescent lights on the ceiling, and no windows.

Richard and Elizabeth take seats next to one another while Ruth continues to stand.

RUTH

So, firstly, would either of you
like some water perhaps? Something
else maybe?

Richard and Elizabeth stare at Ruth for a moment, they then look at one another then back to Ruth.

RICHARD

No.

RUTH

Okay, that's perfectly fine. I
don't think I gave you my name,
it's Ruth.

There's an awkward moment of silence as they all just sit and look at one another. Then the door opens up and a man, LAWRENCE (32), walks in. He wears a black suit with a black tie and a small pin that says 'MANAGER' upon it. He takes a seat in front of Elizabeth and Richard.

LAWRENCE

Hello, my name is Lawrence, i'm a
manager with Nephele Industries. I
have some news for you that will be
extremely shocking, so I ask that
you ask questions after I tell you
everything. There was an accident
with the teleportation procedure.
Your son Roy...

ELIZABETH

Something's wrong with Roy! But we
just-

LAWRENCE

Ma'am please, I need you to listen
first then ask questions.

Elizabeth gives a look of ANGER to Lawrence

ELIZABETH

I don't care about your speech, I want to know what's wrong with my son! Is my daughter alright? She came out sick and I need to know now-

Lawrence leans forward a little bit

LAWRENCE

Ma'am, I really need to tell you this information.

Elizabeth looks as if she is about to start yelling at Lawrence in full force but Richard puts his hand on her hand.

RICHARD

Let's hear him out.

Elizabeth looks at Richard and takes a moment before looking back at Lawrence.

LAWRENCE

I think it would be best to show you.

Lawrence turns around to look at Ruth. He NODS to her.

Ruth, still slightly trembling, goes and clicks a button on the screen which turns it on.

The screen produces a video of Roy sitting and crying in a similar room to the one they are currently in. An attendant sits next to him trying to calm him down. The sound of his CRYING can be heard in the room now.

ROY

I want my mama, I want my mama!

Elizabeth and Richard get out of their chairs.

ELIZABETH

Oh my god, Roy! Where is he? Baby, can you hear me?

LAWRENCE

Could you both please sit down?

Roy looks around when Elizabeth speaks.

ROY

Mama? Where are you?

ELIZABETH

It's alright honey, I'm about to see you again.

RICHARD
What kind of sick joke is this?

Lawrence looks unfazed by Richard and Elizabeth's displays.

ROY
The machine scared me mama! I hated it! Why can't I see you mama?

ELIZABETH
But you were so brave when I last saw you, what changed?

Roy continues to sob with his words coming out in sobs.

ROY
There were flashes and lights, and I couldn't see. I was in the the the pod and I couldn't breathe. When I got out you we're all gone mama, why did you leave me?

Elizabeth and Richard look confused at this statement.

ELIZABETH
What do you mean honey, we just saw you a couple minutes ago?

LAWRENCE
Not to that Roy you haven't.

Elizabeth and Richard both look at Lawrence.

ELIZABETH
What do you mean?

LAWRENCE
The Roy you met a couple of minutes ago is the one who magically woke up in a new place happy as can be. This one-

Lawrence turns around to look at the screen.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)
Is still in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth and Richard both give shocked expressions to Lawrence.

ELIZABETH

What!

RICHARD

But that's impossible he can't be
in two places at one time!

LAWRENCE

That's where the accident comes in.

Lawrence turns around to look at them.

LAWRENCE

As you may know, there is no way to
physically teleport something or
someone to a different place. That
is science fiction. Science
reality, however, states that one
can send a downloaded version of
their consciousness through a
computer and then rebuild the body
through cloning.

RICHARD

Okay, but why is he still there?

LAWRENCE

The consciousness sent is only a
copy, the original person still
lives. So the original person is
'terminated'-

ELIZABETH

Terminated! What the -

LAWRENCE

Yes, terminated ma'am. You sign
over the right for us to do so when
you purchased your travel. Now,
normally this process is done while
you are all asleep as to cause no
pain. However, a malfunction
occurred in the process and your
son wasn't terminated and woke up.
Legally, we can't terminate a minor
after they awaken in the pod
without the parent's permission,
and your son was already rebuilt
here leading to-

RICHARD

There being two Roys?

ELIZABETH

No! There's the original Roy and there's that thing you freaks were trying to pass off as my son!

LAWRENCE

Both are the 'original' Roy ma'am. Same memories, same likes, dislikes, personality, it's all there.

Elizabeth slams her fists into the table.

ELIZABETH

What the hell is wrong with you all! How could you allow this to happen? Why was the lollipop still in his pocket-

Ruth pops up from the Background to make her presence known again.

RUTH

We do it to calm the kids down and give them the illusion of a continuous existence. It's why you wear a jumpsuit when you jump, because if you wake up without that illusion of continuous existence it might cause minor cases of psychosis and-

Lawrence looks to Ruth.

LAWRENCE

Thank you.

Ruth gives a slight nod and proceeds back into the corner.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

So as you can see this is a problem.

Richard leans over the table into Lawrence's face.

RICHARD

You think?

LAWRENCE

Yes, for everyone. Nephele Industries wishes to see this all done in-house to save face. So we have two options for you and your wife Mr. Phillips.

Richard backs off a little with Elizabeth coming in closer to Lawrence.

RICHARD
Options for what?

LAWRENCE
For how to deal with this situation.

ELIZABETH
What are the options then?

LAWRENCE
Option one, you sign over the Roy in Philadelphia to the company-

RICHARD
Sell our son to your company? No way in hell is that happening!

Lawrence continues to look at them unfazed by any remarks or them coming closer to him.

LAWRENCE
Or, option two you give us permission to terminate him.

Both Richard and Elizabeth take a step back, their faces full of shock. Elizabeth cups her hands around her face while Richard puts one hand on his chair.

LAWRENCE
Option one may not seem ideal, but coming from my personal experience with the program it is a very humane and character-building option. He will be reeducated and extremely happy in his new life.

Elizabeth now looks as if she is about to cry while Richard looks at Lawrence.

RICHARD
You can't do this to us!

LAWRENCE
I'm sorry Mr. Phillips but these are the options available.

Elizabeth finally begins to cry and sob.

ELIZABETH

Why can't we take both home with us, why are these our only options?

LAWRENCE

To put it simply, if you showed up with a second version of your son and people knew you jumped then people would know there was a mistake Ma'am. Cloning is not open to the public, only certain companies and the government get to use it. If this got out that there was a mistake, then Nephele Industries could lose that license. I'm sorry ma'am these are your only-

Elizabeth slaps Lawrence across the face. He doesn't seem to react to it.

She runs over to the screen.

ELIZABETH

Roy, baby do you hear mama! I won't let them hurt you baby I promise.

Richard and Lawrence continue to look at one another as Elizabeth hugs the screen trying to talk to her son.

LAWRENCE

I know that you also have a daughter, Mr. Phillips.

Richard finally sits back down in his chair and looks at Lawrence.

RICHARD

Yes I do, what about her?

LAWRENCE

Well, what's her plans for the future? She's eighteen correct?

RICHARD

Yeah, she wants to go to UPenn.

LAWRENCE

Ivy League, nice. Do you have the funds for such a school Mr. Phillips?

Richard takes a moment to respond. The sounds of Elizabeth continuing to CRY into the screen can be heard.

RICHARD

No, we don't.

LAWRENCE

A shame. Well you know, we here at Nephele believe deeply in education. And we would happily provide a scholarship to your little girl to go anywhere she wants. In fact, we can also do it for your son as well if he chooses to go in the future. We will also pay for your full vacation and repay you for the travel fees. All you have to do is make a choice, Mr. Phillips.

Richard and Lawrence fall silent with only Elizabeth's CRIES being heard.

LAWRENCE

We can leave for a little Mr. Phillips so you can discuss your options.

Richard looks at Lawrence and shakes his head.

Lawrence stands up and begins to leave the room with Ruth behind him. But before Ruth leaves she whispers to Richard.

RUTH (WHISPERED)

I'm so sorry.

Ruth then leaves the room.

Richard looks over to his crying wife.

RICHARD

Liz?

Elizabeth looks over to Richard.

RICHARD

They just offered to pay for Mary's education.

Elizabeth gives him a confused look.

ELIZABETH

They did?

RICHARD

Yeah, they did.

Elizabeth looks back at the screen to her son with him still crying and his SOBS still being heard.

ELIZABETH

It doesn't matter what they offer
us, I will not let them have my
son.

Richard stands up

RICHARD

Well what do you suggest then?

Elizabeth then turns around and looks at him.

ELIZABETH

We can try and fight them in court!

Richard walks over to her.

RICHARD

This is a huge multi-million dollar
company, they will drown us in
legal fees and make us look crazy!

ELIZABETH

But we have to try for Roy!

RICHARD

But Roy is still here, right now
with us!

ELIZABETH

No he is not! They made a clone of
him, the real him-

RICHARD

Then what does that make us, huh?
Are we fake too, Elizabeth?

Elizabeth stops talking and looks at the screen.

RICHARD

We have to see this rationally. He
is still alive, we just have to
accept that he isn't the 'original'

Richard comes in closer to Elizabeth and puts his hands on
her shoulders.

RICHARD

This is the only way, Elizabeth. We
have to make this decision for the
family!

Elizabeth then turns around violently.

ELIZABETH

You want to sacrifice your son for
what? Money!

Richard's face becomes angered.

RICHARD

No, I am not sacrificing anyone!
They are both Roy, one just won't
be with us anymore and will help
the Roy we have now!

Elizabeth begins to slap Richard in the chest.

ELIZABETH

You're out of your mind!

Roy can be heard SCREAMING.

ROY

What is going on Mama?

Richard begins to raise his arms against Elizabeth's slaps.

RICHARD

Stop it!

Elizabeth and Richard then come into a full struggle as both
pull on each other. Their PULLING and PUSHING can be heard,
and then Richard violently pushes his wife off him.

RICHARD

Get off me!

Elizabeth then falls backwards, with her head meeting the
metal table. A loud CRACK is heard as this happens and she
then falls to the floor with another CRACK.

Richard stands there in silence at what he has just done. The
sound of a DOOR opening can be heard as well as Elizabeth's
struggling BREATHEs.

ROY

Mama? Mama? (beat) Dad are you
there?

Richard's EYES begins to fill with tears at what has
happened.

LAWRENCE

Well.

Richard looks over to see Lawrence.

LAWRENCE

You know, we can rebuild her as well. We still have her memories saved.

RICHARD

She's not dead-

LAWRENCE

Yes, but she's broken now and willing to talk about what happened. I can tell you this Mr. Phillips, you would probably end up in prison and your wife would be a cripple for the rest of her life. Is that what you want for your kids, for your family?

Richard looks over to Elizabeth who is looking at him.

Her BREATHING fills the room as she desperately tries to get air. Her EYES are filled with tears as she stares at her husband.

Lawrence comes up to Richard.

LAWRENCE

The past offer is still in play Mr. Phillips on top of this new one. But this is the last time it will be offered. So make the decision.

Richard turns around to look at the screen.

RICHARD

Hey buddy, it's me.

ROY

Dad, what's gonna happen?

Richard looks over to Elizabeth's body.

RICHARD

It's gonna be alright Roy.
Everything is gonna be alright.

It then cuts to black.

INT. FAMILY ROOM - DAY

Richard sits in a leather recliner as he stares distantly at nothing. In the room is a TV with a fireplace, a door that leads out to a kitchen, a staircase, and an open window behind where Richard sits. Mary then walks into the room, but only her footsteps are heard.

MARY (O.S.)

Dad, I got a huge scholarship! It should pay for school in full, but I don't even remember signing up for it.

RICHARD

I signed you up honey. I didn't think we'd get it though.

Mary then comes in to hug her father.

MARY (O.S.)

Thanks Dad, this is the best gift ever! I got to show Mom this! Mom, I got something incredible to show you!

Mary then runs off to find her mother with the sound of her RUNNING being heard. Their voices can be heard in the family room.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Oh my goodness! This is great honey!

But their voices begin to fade into loud BUZZING as Richard looks out the window.

The window shows the backyard with Roy running around with a small plane in his hands. Roy stops playing and looks over to his father.

Roy's EYES stares into the window. The buzzing stops as Roy speaks.

ROY

Hey Dad!

It cuts to black.

THE END.