

SCENE 6: Decision/Sophia

MEM [to Kit]:
Look at our hands.
They're the same hands.

Lifeline entwined storyline.
All written here.

Telling me: Come this way
where memory is half-forgotten
as it should be.

Come this way, beyond words.

KIT:
[“Are words the only way out of these woods, Mama?”
but in melody/rhythm only/**onscreen/picture.**]

You know me and I know you.
The word whole
has a hole in it we escape through it.
We are the way out. [pacing, thinking]

A girl was lost in the forest.
She **was** the forest.
So dark, she didn't need to see.
The dark made everything sound like trees.

MEM: [to Kit]
We have to go

KIT:
[“Yes” sound]

MEM:
You know

KIT:
[“Yes” sound]

MEM:
What do you want to do?

KIT:
[“I don't know” sound]

MEM:
Right. What are our options, you mean?

KIT:
[“Yes, with question mark” sound]

MEM:
Corp wants to take us.

To make us into the future.

KIT:
[TYPES or TEXT: but we live now]
[We are us now]

MEM:
Yes. We cannot let Corp take us.
We agree, Kitsune?

KIT:
[“Yes” sound]

[One moonful night I led you out of the forest,
into this world—wordful, hurtful—
where no one could find me. No one can hear me.
No one knows how.] [Reprise of Bedtime Story]

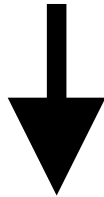
MEM:
If we stay here, we belong to Corp.
We’ll be Corp’s

KIT:
[“No” sound] (powerfully.)

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MEM:
No. We go.

KIT:
[“Yes” sound]

MEM:
Where will we go?

KIT:
[“I don’t know” sound]

MEM:
Mycelia knows a forest.

KIT:
[“Oh? Sounds promising” sound]

MEM & KIT TOGETHER:
(reprising a line of their old lullaby)
We can’t go back to the forest.

MEM:
Mycelia says we can go there,
be free.

KIT:
[“Doubtful” sound]

MYCELIA:
Free from our human bodies.
In the forest I take my tree form.

MEM:
And I’d become [“Whoooo” owl sound]
and you’ll be free, Kit. An almost-grown
fox, Kitsune. Wild in the woods.

KIT:
[Silence.]

[Home was a tree, and the space between,
shaped by a dark she knew by heart...]

MYCELIA:

We transform our bodies
into flora or fauna.
Kit, a fox runs without wheels.

KIT:

["Thinking" sound]

MEM:

We'll need no machines
to keep you breathing, no more pain.

KIT:

[TYPES OR TEXT: I am me.]

MYCELIA:

You'll be you, Kit! Look:

[Overhead, a short animated film, in which the three characters escape on foot to the woods, and transform into a tree, an owl, and a fox. It's like an advertisement for a community-living compound, literally a cartoon. At the end of the film, the edges pixelate and drop like confetti onto the stage.]

[MEM and MYCELIA look at KIT]

KIT:

["No." sound]

[No way back to the forest. Nothing there is home.]

MEM:

He's right. It's not real.

MYCELIA:

yes
another life.

KIT:

[TYPES OR TEXT: I was never lost]

MEM:

It's a cartoon.

KIT:

[TYPES OR TEXT: This life. Real.]

MYCELIA:

It's only an advertisement.
The real forest is biological,
live-action, as close as can be.

KIT:

["Doubt" sound.]

MEM:

Is it real or is it not real, Mycelia?

MYCELIA:

The Forest is a

self-generating simulacra.
 A copy with no original
 because we originate it—
 we create it by living there.

MEM:

Real trees, real wilderness, real forest—
 but we're not people?

KIT:
 ["No" sound]

MEM:

I'm with Kitsune. No.

MYCELIA:

I'm with you both ~~then~~, where to go, then?

MEM:

Pack up. Pack up everything.

KIT:
 ["Now?" sound]

Yes, now. Don't leave anything we need.
 Once we leave,
 Everything we bring will be all we own.

We'll cross borders, we'll skip town.
 They can't catch us if we're on the run.

KIT:
 ["YES!" sound]

MYCELIA & KIT:
 Going where?

MEM:

No one knows.
 We just go.

MYCELIA, MEM & KIT:
 [in multi-media text/sound]
 Anywhere. As long as it's now.
 And we are we.

KITSUNE DANCES

MEM:

Go. Go where they can't find us.
 Where we have no home. Go.

MYCELIA

We go where they can't find us.
 We can never go home. Go
 Anywhere. As long as it's now.

MEM and MYCELIA

We go where they can't find us.

We can never go home.

CHOIR (as in church descant)

[muttering to herself a list of essentials to pack,
this can be in the background, on super-text or other medium]

Enteral food, sleeping bag, tire pump for wheelchair,
extensions and syringes for g-tube, batteries, clothes,
computer, water, shoes, music, photos, memories,
respirator....

We go where they can't find us,
where we have no home.

We can never go home.

KIT:

["YES" sound.]

[TEXT OR TYPE: It was never our home.]

CHOIR

HOME