

DARKEST NIGHT

SEASON 2

EPISODE 5: Out of the Mouths of Swine

CHARACTERS

Katie - Mid 20s. Impulsive and spontaneous. Quick learner who isn't afraid to speak her mind. Has new insight to Vivian and a guy on the inside in Morgan.

Morgan Davies - Late 30s/Early 40s. Grim and matter of fact, but also desperate to make a connection. Isolated from the world at large because of the unique nature of his job as a headhunter for the Roth-Lobdow Center. Katie's new confidante.

Dr. John Kinsler - The late long-time scientist at the Center. Katie's first partner who was killed on his last day of work by Vivan Lobdow. But he left a message for Katie...

Carter - A hardworking young adult who will do anything to save his ailing sister, the only family he has left.

Bethany - Carter's sister.

Pig - A vessel for "Chaos". Controlling, manipulative, and driven by the desire to control others.

Ramsey - One of Roth-Lobdow's lead researchers. British af.

Mary - Ramsey's research assistant.

Robotic Instructions - Over a PA system

LOCATIONS

1. Lab beneath the Center
2. Another maze-like laboratory

TIME

Night

INTRO BUMPER

ROTH-LOBDOW CENTER FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH. NIGHT.

Efx: Keycard beep. A loud buzz, a metal lock unlatched. Door opens, footsteps.

KATIE

I was worried you weren't gonna show up. You didn't even mention your name this morning --

MORGAN

My name's not important. The less you know the better. Here.

Efx: Morgan handing over a box.

KATIE

What is this?

MORGAN

Dr. Kinsler wanted you to have it, after you'd seen the final memories of Vivian's mother.

KATIE

Why?

MORGAN

Look -- Dr. Kinsler and I had a... complicated relationship... but I respected the hell out of that man. He leaves a meeting with Robert a week ago, shows up at my house that night with strange foreboding instructions, then winds up dead the next day. I'm doing what he says because I know he has the best of intentions at heart.

KATIE

Okay, but, why couldn't he just come to me after his meeting with Robert? Did he not trust me?

MORGAN

Again, the less you know the better.

KATIE

But how do I know I can trust you?

MORGAN
You know how his daughter died,
yes?

KATIE
Yes...

MORGAN
It was a drunk driver.

KATIE
Okay, but...

MORGAN
Katie. Dr. Kinsler didn't even have
a daughter. That was code. It's how
he knew he could trust someone. He
would tell them that story so that
you would know it's safe to trust
me now.

KATIE
Wait, what?

MORGAN
Look, I have to go and you have
work to do. I've got a friend in
security. He'll wipe clean that you
were here tonight. Good luck.

Efx: Footsteps as Morgan begins to leave. A box unwrapping.

KATIE
(To Morgan)
An eyeball? Whose eyeball is this?

MORGAN
There's a tape recorder in there as
well. Listen to it before you
watch. Leave everything the way you
found it when you're done... it'll
be taken care of. Oh, and remember
-- I was never here.

Efx: Beep. Door opening and closing.

NARRATOR
Katie stood there. Unsure of
exactly all that was going on, but
hyper-aware that the floor she
currently stood on would shift
dramatically that evening.

KATIE

Okay... well... here it goes.

Efx: Grabbing the recorder from the box.

NARRATOR

Katie found Dr. Kinsler's tape recorder in the box with the eyeball. She pressed play.

KINSLER

Dear Katie. I'm certain your nerves are a tad frayed now that there seems to be a conspiracy within a conspiracy, an enigma wrapped inside of a conundrum. Keep calm. I'm providing you with this optic nerve so that you can stay one step ahead of Vivian and whatever other dubious individual she has paired you with. You and your new partner both saw the final moments of Vivian's mother's life for a reason. Now you will see one of the earliest attempts at using this same drug at our Center. Keep your eyes peeled and your senses heightened. You will need to use information you've gleaned from this viewing to save your own neck in the near future. I may be gone but I am still with you in spirit. Your friend, Dr. John Kinsler.

NARRATOR

Even just thinking of Dr. Kinsler and his unfortunate death by Vivian's hands made Katie misty-eyed. But she pressed forward.

Efx: Sniffling, wiping away tears.

KATIE

Okay Katie, you can do this.

Efx: Insert sample into cube.

KATIE (CONT'D)

Project Cyclops. Trial -- well... I guess I don't need to do this. Jesh, Katie. Get a grip over yourself.

Efx: Distinctive flash noise

INSIDE ANOTHER LABORATORY. CARTER, IN THE CORNER OF A LARGE MAZE. LISTENING TO ROBOTIC INSTRUCTIONS OVER A PA.

ROBOTIC INSTRUCTIONS

The experiment will begin in one minute.

Efx: Heavy breathing, tense.

CARTER

C'mon Carter. You can do this. Be brave. For your sister. For Bethany.

NARRATOR

It was evening at the Roth-Lobdow Center just moments away from a new experiment taking place. Carter had seen the flyer on campus a couple of days ago. Three hundred bucks to participate in a Skinner-esque maze. One thousand dollars if you "won" the experiment.

CARTER

(still pumping himself up)
You got this, Carter. You got this.

NARRATOR

Carter's little sister, Bethany, had recently been diagnosed with a deadly pancreatic cancer at the age of 15. Her time was limited, but Carter had begun taking every odd job he could find in order to elongate her life, give her as much time on planet as he could.

ROBOTIC INSTRUCTIONS

Thirty Seconds.

NARRATOR

Bethany wasn't bedridden -- not quite yet -- but she spent most of her time at home, recovering from the chemotherapy treatments.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

She was still trying to stay fit, walking once a day around the pond by their house, but Carter knew deep down that it was only a matter of time until he would have to hire a full time nurse to take care of her.

ROBOTIC INSTRUCTIONS

Ten Seconds. Remember, your sole goal is to make it to the center of the maze before your opponents and do as you are told once you make it there.

NARRATOR

Carter would do anything to win this challenge if it meant letting his sister live even another day longer. Anything.

ROBOTIC INSTRUCTIONS

Begin!

Efx: Door sliding open.

Efx: Heavy breathing, running, darting, moving, turning etc. etc. throughout this discussion by Narrator.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

The walls of the maze were patterned with creepy rustic wallpaper showcasing a red barn and yellow tractor in front of it. The maze was lit with nothing but flickering fluorescent lights from high up above. Carter paid little attention to these details -- continuing his quest through the maze -- and after turning corner after corner, starting over after hitting dead end after dead end, he eventually reached a large corridor with a white cloth over a large box in the center.

Efx: Door closing.

CARTER

What the hell?

NARRATOR

As Carter reached the center of the maze, his pathway back from whence he came was closed off by a large metal door.

Efx: More footsteps.

CARTER

(screaming)

I'm here first? I won, right?

NARRATOR

There was no answer from the PA system, so instead, Carter started to snoop around.

CARTER

Hrm, what's this?

Efx: Lifting a glass from a table.

NARRATOR

Laying on a tiny side table next to the box was a drink. It had a tiny Hawaiian umbrella stuck inside. The umbrella had two words written on it: "Drink Me".

CARTER

O... K...

Efx: Drinking.

NARRATOR

As Carter finished up the drink, he couldn't help but be reminded of the wallpaper all around him -- a red barn and yellow tractor -- and, enclosed in this square room, it felt like an actual farmyard surrounded him.

EFX: Farm Sounds fadded in

CARTER

Well... now what...?

Efx: Paper umbrella fiddling around.

NARRATOR

Carter fiddled with the plastic umbrella in his drink until he saw another sentence on the underside of the umbrella: "Lift the veil".

CARTER

The veil?

Efx: Rattle of cage

CARTER (CONT'D)

What the...

Efx: Pig snorting

CARTER (CONT'D)

Wait...

Efx: Sheet being lifted off cage

CARTER (CONT'D)

Holy shit.

NARRATOR

Nestled inside a large cage was a medium-sized American Yorkshire pig.

CARTER

Umm... okay...?

(louder)

I beat the maze? I made it to the center first? When do I get my reward money? Hello?

Efx: Lights turning off.

NARRATOR

The lights turned off, sending Carter into complete darkness, until...

Efx: Spotlight turns on.

PIG

Hello, Carter.

CARTER

What the...

NARRATOR

A spotlight had come upon the pig, who now stood upright.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

A voice seemed to emanate from the Pig's cage.

PIG

Tell me, Carter. What do you see?

CARTER

I... I...

PIG

What. Do. You. See?

CARTER

A pig. S-standing upright, eyes wide, mouth open.

PIG

Good, good. And how do you feel?

CARTER

My... my mind feels like... like it's... floating... floating on an ocean of cool water.

PIG

Anything else?

CARTER

I am losing my sense of balance.

PIG

Hey... take it easy man.

CARTER

(bewildered)

What...?

PIG

You look like you're about to pass out. Relax, take a deep breath.

CARTER

(scared)

I think I'm hallucinating. I'm hearing a voice, speaking to me.

PIG

That's because I am.

CARTER

(breathless)

A... a pig is speaking to me?

PIG

(calm)

I prefer swine to pig. It just sounds more elegant doesn't it? Pig is just so... blunt. So, what else do you see?

CARTER

(struggling to remain in control)

A... a pig continuing to speak. Dizziness is fading and the colors seem to be realigning. My head still feels... off... but the other side effects are subsiding.

PIG

That's right... bring it back down to level. It's going to be ok. Anything else?

CARTER

A... a pig is still talking to me. I'm struggling to... to separate reality and the hallucination.

PIG

You think you're hallucinating this?

CARTER

O-of course I am!

PIG

Sorry pal, but this isn't just in your head. I've wanted to talk to plenty of people, but just never have really had the chance, y'know? You've got a strong mind, a logical train of thought. Even now, you're running through possible reasons why you're hearing me speak. If you're not careful, you'll drive yourself mad. Just go with it man, it'll be easier.

CARTER

(whispers)

This isn't real, this isn't real, this isn't real...

PIG

C'mon. Talk to me, swine to man.
It's kind of rude to pretend like
I'm not here.

CARTER

You're just a hallucination, a blip
in my mind. Something fucking with
me from that drink. I'm conjuring
words in my head and projecting
them out of your mouth. It's an
effect of some drug in that drink
or--

PIG

(amused)

Or maybe I can just talk?

CARTER

Don't be ridiculous.

PIG

Let's just say there was something
in your drink. You have no idea
what that something does, do you?
Perhaps it has bridged the gap
between human/animal communication.
Wouldn't that be a major
breakthrough?

CARTER

It can't be...

PIG

Why not?

CARTER

Because animals don't have thought.
Without thought there can be no
language.

PIG

And yet here we are. Just think
about all we can teach one another.
Think of all you can learn.

CARTER

I don't...I don't know what to say.
I just came here today to try and
make some cash -- you see, my
sister, she's--

PIG

Sick?

CARTER
Yea, how did you--

PIG
Well I'm reading your mind, sir.

CARTER
What?

PIG
Don't act so shocked, Carter. Us farm animals have plenty of skills mere humans would never understand. We just choose to keep quiet about them, not boast about the most trivial of things like you humans do.

CARTER
I can't... I can't believe this is happening...

PIG
I have a great idea.

CARTER
What?

PIG
I'll teach you something very basic, right now. Something you clearly weren't taught.

CARTER
(hesitant)
And what would that be?

PIG
Manners. How about you let me out of this cage, huh?

CARTER
No -- no, I'm definitely not doing that.

NARRATOR
But even as Carter was saying this, he was moving closer to the cage.

CARTER
Wait--what?!

PIG

Yup, that's right. Let me right out.

CARTER

But... I don't want to... why am I...?

PIG

That's something we share in common with you humans. We aren't fans of cages.

NARRATOR

Despite his best wishes, Carter was opening the cage like it was exactly what he wanted to be doing.

Efx: cage opening/hooves on tile

PIG

Oh wow, that's much better. It gets pretty claustrophobic in there.

CARTER

How did you-- why did I--?

PIG

Will you stop staring at me? You're making me feel self-conscious.

CARTER

This is so weird.

PIG

Well, you're doing a better job reacting to it than most would, I imagine. The fact that you haven't killed me is encouraging.

CARTER

Thanks?

PIG

I mean, you wouldn't be able to kill me even if you wanted to, since I'm controlling your every action at this point.

CARTER

What!? Controlling my every action!? But... wait, from what I drank!?

PIG

All in due time, Carter. All in due time. Do you want to see something?

CARTER

See what?

PIG

Since you let me out of the cage, I'd like to offer you an extension of trust. Like I said, there's a lot we can share with one another. We animals hold secrets that could change... everything.

CARTER

Everything?

PIG

Let me show you.

CARTER

I don't know about this.

PIG

Do you want to save your sister or not, Carter?

CARTER

I do-- I do--

PIG

Then trust. Remember?

CARTER

Ok. Ok. For Bethany. What do you need from me?

PIG

Do you have a scalpel?

CARTER

No, why would I--

PIG

Are you sure? Check that table by the cage.

Efx: Footsteps

CARTER

Okay, but I can guarantee you, I remember when I came in here what was on the table and there certainly was not a--

NARRATOR

To Carter's complete and utter shock, lying on the table was a shiny little scalpel.

CARTER

Wait... how did that...

PIG

Did you find one?

CARTER

Yes, I... I did...

Efx: scrape of metal

PIG

Great. Can I just say that you're taking all this exceptionally well. You were the right one to talk to, I could tell as soon as I saw you. Your desire to discover the unknown is admirable.

CARTER

Well...thank you.

PIG

I'm serious, I'm not just jerking your chain here. I want to reward you for your belief in me.

CARTER

Alright...

PIG

Now take that blade and make an incision along the side of my body.

CARTER

What!?

PIG

It's ok, this is part of the process. Trust me.

CARTER

I-I don't want to, but...

Efx: Footsteps.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Why're you doing this?

PIG
Sorry, Carter, but I'm in control now. Make a four inch incision about three inches deep. That should be enough.

CARTER
I don't know about this...

PIG
You've come this far. Think of it this way, you're doing it for your sister. You're doing it for Bethany!

CARTER
This is crazy.

PIG
(sinister)
Hurry up.

CARTER
Ok, ok...

Efx: Footsteps/grunting.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Sorry if this hurts.

PIG
(whispers)
Do it.

Efx: Slicing gore noises

Efx: Pig Squeels

CARTER
There! It's done.

PIG
(strained)
Don't worry about the blood. Just leave it.

CARTER
Ok... ok...

PIG

Now I need you to trust me. Can you do that?

CARTER

Not really, but--

PIG

I need you to slice away the skin around your right eye.

CARTER

What!? Why!?

PIG

It's the only way to show you.

CARTER

I don't want to do this...

PIG

Trust, Carter. Just trust me. I let you cut into me. I'm trusting you can do the same to yourself. This is how we learn from one another. This is how we start.

CARTER

I guess I don't have a choice.

PIG

Good man.

Efx: Slicing gore noise

Efx: Grunting

PIG (CONT'D)

Almost done...keep going. All the way around your eye.

Efx: Slicing gore noise

Efx: Grunting Human

CARTER

(in pain)

There! There it's done!

PIG

Don't wipe away the blood! Leave it.

CARTER
I feel like my eye is on fire.

PIG
You did really well. I'm proud of you. Are you ready to continue?

CARTER
Do I have a choice?

PIG
No. Now, use your fingers and part the incision in my body. Don't worry, I can take the pain. Once you've done that, I want you to press your eye against the hole and look inside of me.

CARTER
Why!?

PIG
Do it.

CARTER
(in pain still)
Ok... ok...

Efx: gore noise

PIG
(whispering)
That's right...press your eye flush against my skin and look inside. Tell me what you see.

Efx: Space, echoes, and music change.

CARTER
What the hell...

PIG
Tell me.

CARTER
(amazed)
It's... it's like I'm staring into another world. I can see a horizon filled with color, all kinds of color, swirling together. Reds, blues, orange... they're all surrounding a great mass of... of something.

FIG
(whispering)
Yes... yes, keep going.

CARTER
There's something growing...
growing from the color on the
horizon. It's hard to see. It's so
far away. There's a sky... it's
full of... faces? Yes! Twisted,
blurry faces. They look human!

FIG
(whispering)
Gaze into me! Gaze upon your
humanity, Carter!

CARTER
The mass on the horizon... there's
darkness, growing darkness like
tentacles, reaching for the faces
in the heavens.

FIG
(breathless, almost
sexual)
Don't stop.

CARTER
The twines of smoky darkness,
they're plucking the faces from the
sky and doing something to them.
It's molding them... changing them.
It's filling them with something...
something like light. God... oh
God...

FIG
YESSSSSS!

CARTER
It's shoving them into itself,
adding to its wriggling, squirming
mass. It's growing... God, it's
growing so large. The colors, the
darkness, all of it expanding.
Everything is shifting! There's
holes opening up.

FIG
What's inside of them?

CARTER
(disgusted)
Oh my God...

EFX: Thousands of teeth chewing

PIG
Focus!

CARTER
They're... they're filled with
teeth, viscous strands of flesh,
and protruding appendages. What in
the hell...

PIG
What is it?

CARTER
The mass on the horizon... it's
changed... it's changed into a
giant bloodshot eye. Christ, it's
huge! No... no don't look at me...
stop looking at me! STOP IT!

Efx: Suction noise / Body falling

PIG
Are you still with me?

CARTER
I...I don't know. What the hell did
I see just now? What was that?

PIG
A glimpse into paradise.

CARTER
That's impossible. There was
nothing appealing about what I just
saw. Nothing at all.

PIG
That's just because you're bound to
a singular vision about what
paradise can be. You have to trust
me and broaden your mind beyond the
realm of human expectations.

CARTER
I don't understand...

PIG

There's something buried here, far below the center. Something that could change everything. Don't you want to open the vault of possibility? You saw it when you looked it inside of me.

CARTER

(Beat)

Are you talking about the island?

PIG

Oh yes... the island.

CARTER

I don't know. What I saw... it wasn't right. It scared me.

PIG

(whispering)

The unknown is always scary. But great men and women take chances where weaker minds wouldn't dare. And Carter, I believe you are a great man. I believe in you. I believe in your mind. I believe in your resilience to face challenges others would shrink away from. The greatest evolution of mankind rests below you. All you have to do is embrace the courage to take the first step.

CARTER

Tell me, what did I see?

PIG

You saw the dawn of a force so powerful it could alter the course of existence. And it's just waiting for you to descend. It's waiting for you to unlock it. To join it. To become another vessel for it.

CARTER

Another vessel?

PIG

(chuckling)

The clock is ticking. There is another who has been shown this might. Another who has been selected. Don't let them beat you.

(MORE)

FIG (CONT'D)

Don't become lost in their shadow.
Your mind surpasses theirs. But you
must descend to me and accept the
gift.

CARTER

Who is it? Tell me!

FIG

I'm afraid the rest is in your
hands.

CARTER

What is this drug I've been
given... why has it given me this
vision...

FIG

Axiom Zero.

CARTER

That's what was in my drink?

FIG

Absolutely.

CARTER

What is it?

FIG

It matters less what it is and more
who created it, why and what it
could be used to achieve.

CARTER

Well?

Efx: Pounding on door

VOICE

(muffled)

Hey! Hey! I want to reach the
center of the maze!

CARTER

Another player is here... what do I
do?

FIG

You need to make a decision. No
one's going to believe you.
Everyone's going to try and stop
you. They're going to try and steal
the gift you've been offered.

CARTER

No, I won't let anyone do that!

PIG

Remember how I asked you to trust me?

CARTER

Yes, and I do--

PIG

(interrupts)

Then I need you to trust me one last time. I've seen this intruder's mind. I've examined the way this individual outside the door thinks, the way this individual processes information. This person has a fragile, young mind and is a danger to your success. You'll see. This individual will try to plant seeds of doubt so that they can take this treasure for their own.

CARTER

No...no I found this! You chose me!

PIG

They won't understand that.

Efx: Pounding on door.

VOICE

Open the door! Open the door!

CARTER

(whispers)

What do I do?

PIG

You're going to have to open it at some point.

CARTER

I... I can open it now?

PIG

You always could. That red button to the left of it.

CARTER

Oh... ok...

Efx: Footsteps

Efx: Beep and door sliding open

CARTER (CONT'D)

...Bethany?

BETHANY

Holy SHIT, Carter, what happened to your eye?

CARTER

Bethany, I need you to listen to me. I've seen something. Something incredible.

PIG

Carter...

BETHANY

Shit, Carter, we have to get you to a doctor, there's blood all over your face!

CARTER

No, Bethany, just listen to me-- I won, I won so now we'll have the money necessary to-- wait, did you sign up for this experiment too?

BETHANY

Let me get something to stop the bleeding.

CARTER

Will you just shut up for a second!?

BETHANY

(shocked)

Carter? What happened here?

CARTER

It showed me something.

BETHANY

Who? What are you talking about?

CARTER

It told me to cut it open...to cut myself open. And it showed me something. Bethany, I've discovered an alternate place of existence.

(MORE)

CARTER (CONT'D)

And the pig says it's here in the Center. It's on the island. I just have to go down there and accept its gift. Once I do that, I'll become a vessel to merge our existences. ME! Isn't that incredible? A whole galaxy at our finger tips, with me at the helm, leading the charge.

BETHANY

(cautious)

The pig...the pig told you this?! I thought this was just a race to the center of a maze, Carter. What the hell did you do!?

CARTER

(dismissive)

I drank some of a drug called Axiom Zero. Bethany, you're not listening to me. The drug is incredible, it opened communication between the pig and I! It allowed me to see into a world hidden beneath our own!

BETHANY

Jesus, you did what!? Carter, WHY!? Ok, enough of this nonsense, we need to get you to a hospital, you're CLEARLY hallucinating. There's no telling what else the drug is doing to your system.

PIG

I told you. She's trying to stop you. She's trying to dampen your discovery. This is the greatest moment in your life and she's not even listening.

CARTER

You talk to her! Show her!

BETHANY

Who are you talking to!? Are you talking to the pig!?

CARTER

Bethany, you've got to take the drug. So I can show you what I've seen. I'm sure our experimenters would let you--

PIG

She's not going to listen. She thinks you're crazy.

CARTER

I'm not CRAZY!

BETHANY

You're freaking me out. Come on, we can talk about this once someone's looked at you. You won first place, the experiment's over. We can get the scientists who brought us here to let us out, go home.

PIG

They're going to lock you away, Carter. They're going to say you've lost your mind. If you let her take you, you'll spend the rest of your life in a straight jacket or dead, just like all the rest of the human test subjects who have been exposed to Axiom Zero. They don't understand. Their minds are weak, they can't possibly comprehend your resilience.

CARTER

No... no I won't let them. This is mine.

BETHANY

Stop talking to that pig!

CARTER

What... what are you jealous that it chose me?

BETHANY

Chose you for WHAT!?

PIG

Carter, it's time to make your choice.

CARTER

I'm not going with you, Bethany. I need to go to the island. You can have the money, you can still save yourself... I have been chosen to lead this world into greatness. I won't let anyone take that from me.

BETHANY

I'm not trying to take anything from you! I'm trying to help you!

PIG

That's what they'll all say. That's how they limit themselves. They view brilliance and change as insanity. Just look at human history. Look at all the great men who were persecuted for their ideas. Spinoza, Galileo, Socrates. Great people, great minds, just like yours.

CARTER

I'll show them...I'll show them all. You'll help me won't you?

PIG

Of course.

BETHANY

Stop talking to the PIG!

Efx: Thud/Contact

Efx: Pig squealing

CARTER

Stop it! Don't you touch him!

PIG

(pained)

You see? You see how they persecute me? I'm only trying to help, to show and share with you what lies beyond your eyes.

CARTER

I won't let her hurt you again.

BETHANY

Carter, snap out of it!

CARTER

Snap out of it? Why are you trying to take this away from me? Are you afraid that you'll get left behind? Is that it?

BETHANY

(incredulous)

Left BEHIND?

CARTER

You're a joke, Bethany. Agreeing to participate in this experiment in your haggard condition. The Center doesn't respect you. They think you're weak.

BETHANY

Stop, just stop. I am weak, but... don't say something you'll regret.

CARTER

Even the swine can see it. He told me, told me how fragile you are.

BETHANY

Carter -- you know I'm weak. Shut up, come on, let's go to the hospital before--

CARTER

I'm not going.

BETHANY

Oh yes you are. You might not see it right now because you're fucked up, but I'm trying to help you.

PIG

Carter, this is it! Stop her! Don't leave me! If she takes you away they'll kill me!

CARTER

No! No get off me, Bethany!

Efx: Struggle/Grunting

BETHANY

(panting)

Carter, stop struggling! Your head is all messed up!

CARTER

(panting)

I won't... let you... take this away from me!

PIG

The scalpel! Use the scalpel!

BETHANY

(panting)

Carter what are you doing!? Put that down!

CARTER

I'm sorry, Bethany! But your time's almost up anyway. And I have a way to fix things -- fix everything -- for the rest of humanity. I have to!

Efx: Scrape of metal

Efx: Stabbing/Gore noise

BETHANY

(Screams)

Carter!

Efx: body falling to floor

CARTER

(panting)

There...I'm sorry, Bethany. I wish you could have understood.

BETHANY

(long exhale)

Carter...

PIG

Carter, they're going to come for you. They must have heard the screaming. They're going to take you away.

CARTER

(panicked)

No, no, no, NO! Not when we're this close! Help me! Please! What do I do?

PIG

There's another way. A back door, if you will.

CARTER

Tell me! Anything!

Efx: Distant patter of feet.

PIG

We don't have much time. Draw the blade across my throat. Kill me.

CARTER

What!? No!

PIG

It's ok. I'll be waiting for you on the other side. Once I'm dead, do the same to yourself. Cut your throat open.

CARTER

I can't do this!

PIG

You HAVE to! It's your only chance now! It will be ok. I'll be with you. I'll take you. I'll show you the wonders of the world you saw. And when I do, when you accept this gift. When that happens... the limits of discovery and power at your fingertips will be like nothing the world has ever seen.

Efx: Distant yelling/Patter of feet

PIG (CONT'D)

Carter!

CARTER

(panicked)

SHIT! Ok! Ok I'll do it!

PIG

Good! HURRY!

Efx: Stabbing/Gore sound

Efx: Pig squealing

CARTER

God help me.

Efx: Distant yelling drawing closer

CARTER (CONT'D)

Here I come. Wait for me.

Efx: Slicing/Gore sound

Efx: Blood gurgling/Body falling

NARRATOR

As Carter's body spasmed, the final bits of life draining from him, a door opened -- and in stepped Ramsey, head of scientific operations at The Roth-Lobdow Center for Advanced Research. Along with her assistant, Mary.

Efx: Door opening.

RAMSEY

Damn. We're already too late. The subject has both killed his sister and himself...

Efx: Blood gurgling still

MARY

Wow... that was a show... what do we do now?

RAMSEY

I'll have janitorial clean up the mess. Obviously the serum that Sigma has been working on is not only a memory alterator but also a significantly heightened mind control substance, as suspected. Vivian will be quite excited by these results.

MARY

Ramsey -- this man thought that a pig was talking to him. All he was doing was hearing the thoughts of--

RAMSEY

Our transmitter. I know. And he thought it was the pig. The poor sod.

Efx: Blood gurgling still

NARRATOR

Carter was spasming in the middle of the floor. The barn yard wallpaper around him splattered with the blood of himself, his sister Bethany and a pig... a pig that was never really talking with him to begin with.

RAMSEY

Well... now you see just how powerful Axiom Zero truly can be, yes?

MARY

Indeed. And this was based off of Dr. Igwe's initial prototype.

RAMSEY

Yes. He hid his own version, Apothegm, from Roth-Lobdow before moving over to Sigma Corp. Quite the bone-headed move if I do say so myself... I'm sure his discretions will be rectified in due time.

MARY

Ramsey?

RAMSEY

What is it?

MARY

Can... can we put this lad out of his misery yet? For good?

RAMSEY

I think that's a splendid idea. Would you like to do the honors?

MARY

Of course.

Efx: Metal scraping. Stabbing gore sound.

Efx: Gurgling from Carter's next.

NARRATOR

Mary covered his mouth and with her hand, pressing down on his, and suffocated him.... robbing him of his Carter of his final breath.

Efx: Distinctive flash noise

OUTRO BUMPER

KATIE

Oh my... oh my god...

NARRATOR

Katie was paralyzed with fear.

KATIE

Well... at least... at least I have
a name for what this substance is
now...

(beat)

Axiom Zero...

NARRATOR

Unsure of exactly what to do with
this information, Katie knew that
staying any longer at the Center
that night would not be a wise
decision. So, following Morgan's
orders, Katie turned around, opened
the door. And left.

Efx: Keycard sound. Door opening/closing.

END OF EPISODE