
NEW HOPE

Olivia Crews

Dennis felt his head zoom towards the steering wheel, and then everything went black.

He opened his eyes to the sound of fighting. Jeremiah was in the driver's seat, his eyes wide. "Dennis! Help- I don't know how to drive!" Instincts took over as Dennis immediately switched places with him. "Where's Mac?" He said, expecting the worst.

"He's fighting Anna in the-" Dennis cut him off, "What!?" He turned around, to see his friend avoiding Anna's leg. Anna was crying as she tried to scramble away from him, gripping the edge with her good hand.

"Just keep on driving to the radio station!" Jeremiah said, "People are there. People that can help us! I heard it on the radio while we were driving." Dennis blinked, "How can they help us?" Jeremiah's face turned the most hopeful Dennis had ever seen it, "They have a cure."

Mac winced as Anna's leg shot out, kicking him in the stomach, "I-I'm sorry! I can't control it!" Anna was sobbing, tears streaming down her cheeks. She was trying to stay away from Mac, her knuckles white from gripping the edge of the truck.

Her legs weren't agreeing with the rest of her body as they kept on randomly kicking at Mac. "Anna," Mac said, his voice serious, "You need to listen to me. This is your body, fight the plague. Focus on controlling yourself."

Anna nodded as she took a breath, trying to calm down. Soon her legs were fine, although they kept on kicking out, they weren't as bad or as hard. "Thank you..." Mac said, "We're almost there. They can save you."

The car ride went on until they finally got to the radio station, Mac and Dennis helped Anna out of the car. Even though occasionally she would kick them or grab their throats, she seemed to be trying to hold herself back.

Mac quickly walked to the door, knocking loudly. After a while, it seemed that nobody was going to answer. Mac walked around the station, noticing a side door. It was wide open, "Over here!" He called. The group came and they went into the station.

They walked through the station, looking for any sign of a human. The radio station seemed to have transformed into a laboratory. There were lots of papers, diagrams and small vials full of purple liquid.

"Hello?" A voice called, and Dennis, Jeremiah, Mac and Anna jumped. Anna punched Mac, giving him a quick apology. Dennis spun around to see a short old woman with oversized

goggles and some boots.

“I’m Cassia Wilson, and I’m the developer of the cure. I do cure people but at a price.” Dennis stared at her, “I don’t care what the price is. We’ll pay for it. We have lots of money.”

Cassia shook her head, “I’ll tell you the price after your friend is cured. Follow me please.”

Cassia led them through the halls, stopping at a huge door, “In here please!” Dennis looked around, this seemed too easy. He took a deep breath, this was for Anna. She needed to be cured.

After all of them had stepped in, Cassia smiled, “I’ll be right back.” After a few minutes, she came back with a small needle. “This will inject the cure into her.” Dennis looked away as Cassia stuck the needle into Anna.

Almost immediately, Anna relaxed. “T-Thank you!” She stammered, “You saved me!” The woman nodded, “Yes, I did. Now, remember that price I was talking about? It’s rather easy. Help me rescue others from being zombies.”

Dennis glanced at his group. They all gave him a nod, “I am interested. Maybe one day, the world could be back to normal again.” At the thought, he smiled. “I’m ready to do anything. We are stopping the plague.”

Ten Years Later

Anna, Jeremiah, Dennis and Mac smiled as they stared at each other, then at the crowd of people before them. There were hundreds, maybe thousands of people. They had helped save every single one of them.

It was no easy task at first, but now the plague is about to be gone forever. “I want to thank all the people that helped this become a reality. The plague has been defeated.” Mac said, smiling.

“And of course, we need to thank Cassia Wilson for developing the vaccine. Even though she isn’t with us anymore. She is the reason that we are all here smiling.” Anna said, her eyes shining, “She’s the reason that I’m still here.”

There was an applause as they all looked at each other, before Mac said, “I think that we changed the world. We brought hope to people that didn’t have any.”