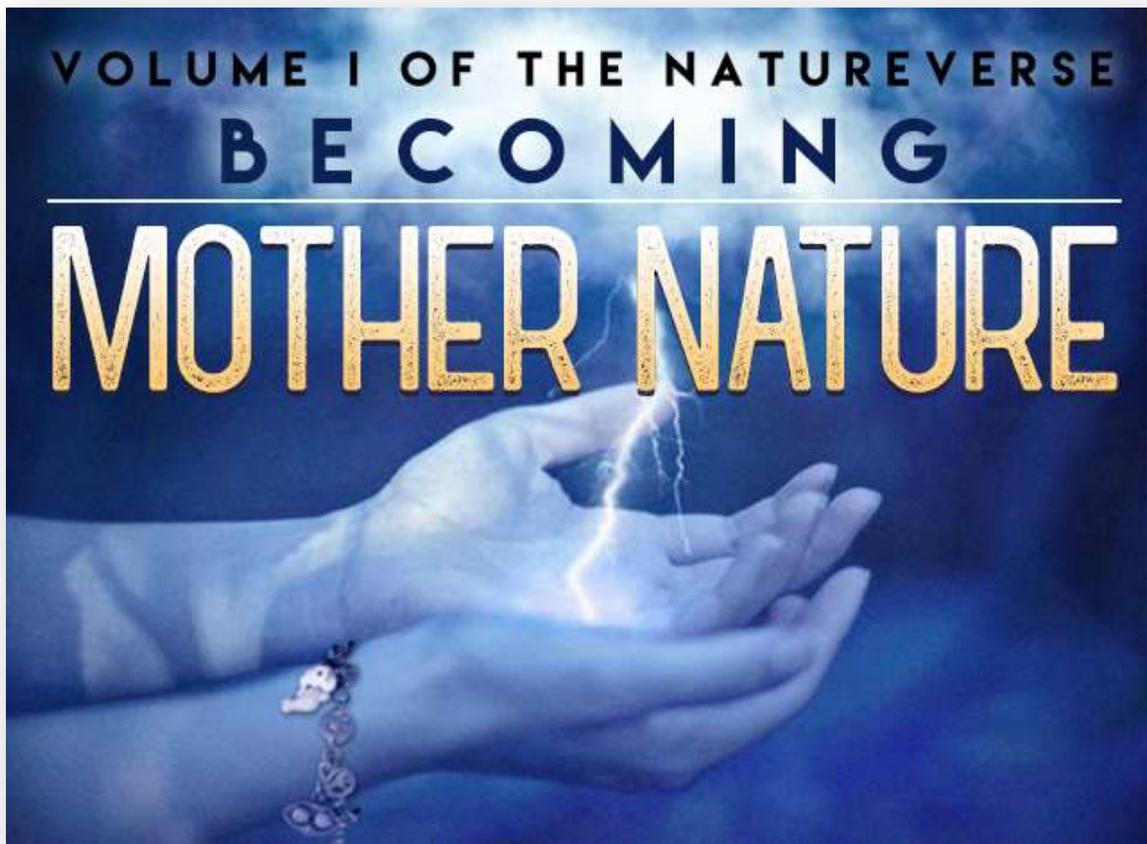


Gen **Z** Media

EVERYBODY LISTEN



*Script for Episode 1*

BECOMING MOTHER NATURE - Episode 1 "Blizzard"

PROLOGUE:

101-1 EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD - TWILIGHT - 30 YEARS AGO

Sound of HOWLING WIND, TORRENTIAL DOWNPOURS.

INT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Sound is still loud, but slightly muted, indicating we're inside a house. PETER (age 7), his MOM and DAD are in the house.

The SOUND OF AN EMERGENCY BEEP, and a fuzzy voice over a transistor radio. Characters talk over the announcer.

EMERGENCY ALERT ANNOUNCER

This is an emergency alert from the National Weather Service. All of Central California is under a severe storm warning.

PETER

(whining, over the announcement)

But why can't I play outside?

PETER'S DAD

Are you crazy, Pete? It's the apocalypse out there.

PETER'S MOM

Stan!

PETER

What's a "a-cop-alis"?

PETER'S MOM

Shhh.

EMERGENCY ALERT ANNOUNCER

The region is being pummeled by heavy rain and severe winds, and there have even been reports of tornados in the area. We're only a month into 1978 and it's already turning out to be a wild weather...

Peter's dad turns down the radio.

PETER'S MOM

Petey, honey, it's far too dangerous outside. The answer is no. Why don't you run down to the basement and grab a game for us to play?

PETER'S DAD

In the dark?

PETER'S MOM

Give him your flashlight, Bill. The lights will come on soon.

PETER'S DAD

Don't count on it.

PETER

But I don't wanna...  
(realizes something)  
Okay.

Sound of FEET RUNNING DOWN THE STAIRS. The storm is even louder down here, echo-y. Sound of Peter rifling through a closet, putting on boots and a jacket, and sneaking out the basement door, CLICK, into the thick of the storm.

PETER (CONT'D)

Oh man is it raining! Far out!

EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Peter runs, SPLASHING THROUGH PUDDLES, getting blown farther away from his home, loving every minute of it.

PETER (CONT'D)

(laughing)  
These puddles are huuuuuge!

But the SOUNDS OF THE STORM (TREES CREAKING, POWER LINES CRACKLING) intensify.

Suddenly we hear the sound of RUSHING WIND - a powerful TORNADO!

PETER (CONT'D)

(suddenly scared)  
Oh no...It's just like in the Wizard of Oz...It's a twister!

The TORNADO GETS CLOSER. But a TREE come CRASHING down, blocking his path.

PETER (CONT'D)  
*Aaaahh! Trees!! Help!!*

Suddenly the voice of A WOMAN (MOTHER NATURE), not his mother.

This WOMAN is also outside, but in the distance, a bit.

MOTHER NATURE  
Run toward my voice, child.

PETER  
(yelling over the storm)  
What? Who said that? *I can't see you!!!*

The WIND RAGES, trees are being torn up.

MOTHER NATURE  
Close your eyes! Now!

MOTHER NATURE (CONT'D)  
Do as I say.

PETER  
What? What are you doing?!

MOTHER NATURE  
I can't let this happen! Too much death in one day!

She waves her arms.

MOTHER NATURE (CONT'D)  
*Disponia Aver Incuit.*

PETER  
What?!

MOTHER NATURE  
Shut your eyes, boy. Keep them closed!

PETER  
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!

The WIND is DEAFENING...and then it suddenly STOPS! Silence.

MOTHER NATURE  
Okay, you may open your eyes.

PETER  
Huh? How did you do that?

MOTHER NATURE  
Go home, child. Now. Run!

PETER  
*But who are you?!*

MOTHER NATURE  
RUN!

Peter does as told, running toward the voices of his panicked parents, outside and searching for him.

PETER  
Mom! Dad!

DAD  
Peter!

As Peter gets closer, his Dad spots him.

PETER'S DAD  
I've got him!

PETER'S MOM  
Thank God! Oh my baby! We were so scared.

PETER  
I was scared, too. But there was this lady. She made the twister go away.

PETER'S MOM  
What?

PETER  
She saved my life.

PETER'S DAD  
Son...

PETER  
It's true. She quieted the storm!  
(beat)  
It was...magic.

BRIDGE TO: THEME  
SONG

101-2 EXT. AIRPORT - PRESENT DAY

Airport sounds as CHLOE LOVEJOY, 12, wheels a suitcase outside. Sound of a CAR APPROACHING.

ISMAIL  
Are you Chloe?

CHLOE  
That's what it said on my plane  
ticket.

ISMAIL  
I'm Ismail. Lemme help you with  
your bag.

CHLOE  
I'm good.

ISMAIL  
Here, I've got it.

CHLOE  
It's 2018, dude. A girl can wheel  
her own suitcase.

ISMAIL  
That she can.

She enters the car with her bags and SLAMS THE DOOR SHUT.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

MUSIC from the radio plays in the background.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)  
1440 Rynda Road?

CHLOE  
(sighs)  
Yes.

He pulls away from the curb and starts driving.

ISMAIL  
Pretty young to be traveling alone.  
Let me guess- you're...12?

CHLOE  
13 next week.

ISMAIL  
Happy birthday. Where are you  
coming from?

CHLOE  
Cleveland.

ISMAIL  
Cleveland, Ohio. The  
big...something. So, what brings  
you to Morro Bay, California?

CHLOE  
You have a lot of questions.

ISMAIL  
Just hoping for a five star rating.

CHLOE  
If you really wanna know, I've been  
sent to live with my grandmother  
while my mom, loose quotes,  
"figures things out."

ISMAIL  
You don't sound too happy about it.

CHLOE  
How would you like being shipped  
off, away from all your friends to  
live with a weird old lady you  
haven't seen since you were a kid?

ISMAIL  
You're still a kid.

CHLOE  
Whatever.

In the BG, the MUSIC STOPS and we hear the JINGLE for DUNCAN  
SUNSHINE, the local weatherman, cheery and campy, a la L.A.  
Weatherman DALLAS RAINES...

ISMAIL  
At least the weather's nice here.

Turns up the volume.

*DUNCAN SUNSHINE*  
*Good evening out there, weather*  
*watchers. It's your good pal,*  
*Duncan Sunshine with your six-day*  
*forecast. Why six? Because any*  
*weatherman can give you five days.*  
*Only yours truly, Duncan Sunshine,*  
*can deliver the six-pack.*

ISMAIL  
I love this guy. *Duncan Sunshine.*  
Course he's wrong half the time.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE

*As we head into the work week it's looking like old Mother Nature's finally gotten her act together. Nice change after all the weird and wacky weather of the past few weeks.*

ISMAIL

Tell me about it. World's gone crazy.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE

*Lucky for you, when Mother Nature roars, you've got the Sunshine team on your side.*

CHLOE

(cutting him off)

Can you turn this off. I'm getting a headache.

ISMAIL

Sure. You want to talk?

CHLOE

No. A little silence would be nice. I want to enjoy my last few minutes of freedom.

Suddenly he pulls the car over.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Hey, what are you doing? Why are you stopping on the side of the highway?

Ismail drops his friendly demeanor, takes a more serious, mysterious tone.

ISMAIL

Listen to me, Chloe. You were sent here for a reason.

CHLOE

What?

ISMAIL

Pay attention to your grandmother. Learn from her. One day...your time will come.

CHLOE

My time? What are you talking about?!

ISMAIL

Each of us has a destiny in this life. A purpose. You're here to find yours.

CHLOE

I don't understand...You're really weirding me out here.

ISMAIL

Am I?

(laughs, back to acting

like the friendly driver)

My bad. Just trying to give some helpful advice to a girl who seems like she needs some. Off we go to Grandma's house.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Some time has passed, but the car has finally reached Grandma Ivy's house. Chloe hoists her suitcase out of the car.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

Here we are. 1440 Rynda Road. I'd offer to help you bring your bag to the door, but I'm afraid you might hit me with it.

CHLOE

(still weirded out by him)

Just...pop the trunk.

We hear the trunk open.

ISMAIL

You got it. Have fun with your Grandma.

CHLOE

Hey, um, what you said before about my destiny -

ISMAIL

Like I said, friendly advice. If you ever need another ride, you know where to find me.

Car drives away.

CHLOE  
No thanks...weirdo.

101-3 EXT. GRANDMA IVY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Chloe RINGS THE DOORBELL, but no one answers. She tries again. Nothing.

CHLOE  
That's an annoying doorbell.

She tries the front door. It's unlocked. Chloe lets herself in. Sound of LUGGAGE WHEELS BUMPING OVER DOORWAY.

CHLOE (CONT'D (CONT'D))  
(echoes in hallway)  
Hello? Hello? Grandma?

No answer from anywhere.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Uch. Hell-ooo?

Crickets.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Grandma?

Chloe fishes for her cell phone and dials.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Mother, yes. I made it. Can you hear me? No, the flight was delayed. Thanks for checking. And now your mother is MIA. No, I'm in the house but she's not. I forgot how weird it is in here. It's, like, overrun with plants. And it smells like...like grass and honey and...old people. There are all these snow globes. What is she, obsessed with them or something?

Sounds of the LOUD ECHO OF FOOTSTEPS. And a SOUND OF A GUST OF WIND...

GRANDMA IVY  
(calling)  
Chloe? Is that you?

CHLOE  
(into her phone)  
Found her, bye.

As GRANDMA IVY APPROACHES the SOUND OF WIND picks up. The SNOW GLOBES start SHAKING.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Whoa...The snow globes are freaking out...

GRANDMA IVY, early 70's, is spirited, mysterious, dramatic, a little scattered, but lively and sweet.

GRANDMA IVY

Chloe! Darling! You're early!

CHLOE

I'm late, Grandma. By three hours.

GRANDMA IVY

Of course you are. My Chloe, all grown up! Let me get a good look at your face. Beautiful. You look just like my grandmother, Fern!

CHLOE

Where were you? I was calling and calling.

GRANDMA IVY

Oh, just fiddling with some things downstairs. My hearing must be going. Old age is not for the faint of heart. I only came up because I was feeling peckish. Are you peckish?

CHLOE

I don't even know what that means.

GRANDMA IVY

Hungry, my dear. It means hungry. How was the flight?

CHLOE

Delayed. And then delayed again.

GRANDMA IVY

I'll bet they tried to blame it on the weather instead of their own incompetence. Let's call your mother and let her know you're here.

CHLOE

Already did. As usual it was wildly unsatisfying.

GRANDMA IVY

Oh. Marvelous. You're so independent. That will come in handy.

CHLOE

For what?

GRANDMA IVY

Um, for life. Are you tired? Do you want to take a nap?

CHLOE

I haven't napped in about 10 years.

GRANDMA IVY

Don't underestimate the power of a good nap! I've been enjoying a lot of them lately. And having the strangest dreams...

(beat, remembering)

Oh, dinner is in the oven. Roasted vegetables from my garden.

CHLOE

Vegetables?

GRANDMA IVY

Not just ordinary vegetables. You're not going to believe how glorious they taste. Go look at the garden out back while I'm in the kitchen. I've worked quite hard on it.

CHLOE

Grandma, I...

But she's already gone.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Ooh-kay. Guess I'll go look at your vegetables.

101-4 EXT. GRANDMA IVY'S GARDEN - NIGHT

Chloe walks out the back door and wondrous MUSIC SWELLS as she walks into the craziest garden she's ever seen. It sounds like the JUNGLE.

CHLOE

What...? It's like the rain forest back here.

(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Look at the size of these plants...Is that a cucumber...or a baseball bat? Look at that tomato. It's bigger than my head... What is she feeding them? I'm definitely not in Cleveland anymore.

A voice cuts through from over the backyard fence.

FELIX

Psycho garden, huh?

CHLOE

What?

FELIX

Be careful. I wouldn't be surprised if there were monkeys hiding in there.

CHLOE

(not seeing him)

Where are you?

FELIX

Over here, on the other side of the fence. Behind the eight foot tall corn stalks.

CHLOE

(moving through the corn stalks, grunting)

And who are you?

FELIX

Oh, sorry. Felix. I'm your Grandma Ivy's neighbor. Assuming you're Chloe. You are Chloe, right?

CHLOE

She told you about me?

FELIX

Not really.

(beat)

Hey, you want to walk to school with me tomorrow?

CHLOE

Did my grandmother ask you to walk me or something?

FELIX

Huh? No. Why would she do that? I mean, that would be...

(caving)

Okay, yes. Yes, she did.

CHLOE

And you said yes out of the goodness of your heart?

FELIX

Of course. Why else would I say yes. I mean, it's not like she offered me anything or...Why would I even bring that up?

CHLOE

(catching on)

She bribed you?!

FELIX

Well, I wouldn't call it a bribe...

CHLOE

What did she offer you, Felix?

FELIX

Nothing really.

CHLOE

I'm going back inside.

FELIX

(admitting)

Oranges. She offered me oranges.

CHLOE

Ughh.

FELIX

Look at them on the tree. I can smell them from here. Big as soccer balls and sweeter than candy.

CHLOE

She bribed you with giant, mutant oranges? Well, don't worry, you don't have to walk the new girl to school. I'm nobody's charity case.

FELIX

If it's all the same to you, I'm going to walk with you anyway. My word is my bond, know what I mean?

CHLOE

Whatever.

Chloe walks back inside. SCREEN DOOR SLAMS BEHIND HER.

FELIX

(calling)

Nice to meet you, too!

CUT TO:

101-5 INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Time passage. Chloe is getting ready for bed.

CHLOE

She doesn't even have wifi? How am I supposed to live with no wifi?

Grandma Ivy KNOCKS, pokes her head in.

GRANDMA IVY

You comfortable, Chloe?

CHLOE

What kind of bed is this? The mattress feels like it's made of grass.

GRANDMA IVY

Yes, well...the last time there was a kid in this house, it was your mother.

CHLOE

Like 30 years ago?

GRANDMA IVY

Where does the time go? It seems like only yesterday she was your age and -

CHLOE

Yeah, Grandma, okay. I'd really like to go to bed now. It's been a long day.

GRANDMA IVY

Oh, I'd hoped we'd have a chance to talk. Or at least watch Jeopardy.

CHLOE

Like I said...long day. Plane delays. Tarmac.

GRANDMA IVY

Right. Then we'll talk tomorrow. After school. How did you like dinner?

CHLOE

Honestly? Those giant vegetables kinda freaked me out. Potatoes the size of watermelons? Is that like a California thing? Because it's not natural.

GRANDMA IVY

Oh, trust me, it's all natural.

CHLOE

(ushering her out)  
Goodnight, Grandma.

GRANDMA IVY

(sighs)  
Goodnight, Chloe. I know you aren't thrilled to be here. But your old Grandmother is overjoyed to have you. I've been waiting a long time for this. Tomorrow will be a big day...

CHLOE

Sure. One more thing?

GRANDMA IVY

Yes, dear?

CHLOE

Close the door on your way out?

Ivy sighs, exits and closes the door.

FADE TO:

101-6 EXT. GARDEN OF EDEN - DREAM SEQUENCE

Time passage, Chloe's breathing is steady. She's sound asleep and we Fade Into her dream.

Big echo and stylized audio as Chloe finds herself in the middle of a vast garden. Sounds of bees and water. Nature in the raw.

CHLOE

Where am I? Is this a dream? Hello?

Footsteps as Chloe's great-great-grandmother FERN approaches.

FERN

Well, hello there, young Chloe.

CHLOE

Where am I? Is this Grandma Ivy's garden?

FERN

(laughs)

No, this garden is a great deal larger and older than that.

CHLOE

Do I know you?

FERN

Not exactly. My name is Fern.

CHLOE

My great-great grandmother? Grandma says I look like you.

FERN

I'll take that as a compliment.

CHLOE

(annoyed)

What is this place? What am I even doing here?

FERN

Do you like it?

CHLOE

Too much green. I'm a city girl. Allergic to the outdoors and all of that.

FERN

Ah, sweet Chloe. I wanted to meet you and to say -

Suddenly, there's a LOUD RUSHING SOUND as if something big and scary is coming.

CHLOE

What is that noise?

FERN  
(scared)  
Oh dear.

CHLOE  
What? What's happening?  
(shivers)  
Why is it so cold?

Things are FREEZING AND CRACKING. Animals panicking.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
The trees...they're cracking and  
dying!

FERN  
I didn't know, Chloe. I just didn't  
know.

CHLOE  
You didn't know what? What's  
happening? Fern? Fern!!

The noise gets louder and louder until...

CUT TO:

101-7 INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Chloe wakes with a start.

CHLOE  
(breathing heavily)  
Okay, that was freaky.

Chloe gets out of bed, still trying to get her bearings after  
the dream.

The RUSTLE OF SHEETS... Chloe looks at the clock.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
2:19 am? Ugh.

We hear the FAINTEST SOUNDS COMING FROM DOWNSTAIRS - PINGS,  
POPS, etc. Chloe can't make out anything specific - it's all  
just GARBLED.

She GETS OUT OF BED, OPENS HER DOOR. The noise becomes a drop  
louder.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
Grandma?

No response. Just more BLEEPs and BLOOPs.

Chloe walks DOWN THE STAIRS

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Where are those sounds coming from?  
The basement? Grandma? Grandma?

The BEEPS, PING and POPS get louder and louder the closer she gets. She tries a BIG HEAVY WOODEN DOOR. She RATTLES THE HANDLE but it doesn't budge.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Why does it have so many locks?  
What is she doing down there?

CUT TO:

101-8 DUNCAN SUNSHINE FORECAST

We open on Duncan's JINGLE.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE

*Good morning out there, Central Coast. It's your pal, Duncan Sunshine, wishing you and yours a Sunshiney Day. Mother Nature's got a good one in store for us, folks. And that's good news, because all my young friends know what today is - Yes, it's the first day of school, a day when anything and everything is possible. You know, I was just a kid like you when I became...fascinated by the weather. And now look at me - lead meteorologist on the number 2 tv station on the Central Coast. And while I can't control the weather, or its sometimes unpredictable nature, I can only use science and predictor models, so I would appreciate it if you stopped writing in and complaining when my reports prove to be...less than perfect. Have a great first day of school, my young friends. I hope you find what you love and that it makes you happy. Wherever you are, this is Duncan Sunshine, hopin Mother Nature smiles on you.*

101-9 EXT. STREET/MIDDLE SCHOOL - MORNING

Grandma Ivy is walking a cranky Chloe to school.

GRANDMA IVY

Chloe, I know it's never easy to be the new girl, but try to be, uh, friendly when you get to school.

CHLOE

Are you saying I'm not friendly?

GRANDMA IVY

I'm saying you're...perhaps... guarded. Let people see the real you.

CHLOE

My friends at home never had a problem with it.

GRANDMA IVY

If things at home were good, you wouldn't be here.

A SKATEBOARD approaches. Felix rides up.

CHLOE

Yeah, that's what Mom said.

FELIX

(kicking up the board)  
Hey, sorry I'm late.

CHLOE

I told you you'd get your mutant oranges no matter what.

GRANDMA IVY

Good morning, Felix.

FELIX

Mornin' Ms. Lovejoy. So Chloe, real quick, let me give you the lay of the land.

CHLOE

Thanks. I'm good.

Chloe walks away. Felix hops back on the board.

FELIX

Chloe. Wait up!

CHLOE

Why?

FELIX

Well, for starters, school is *that* way.

CHLOE

Oh.

GRANDMA IVY

Let's all walk together, honey.

FELIX

Like I was saying, it can be pretty cliquey if you don't watch out. I'm lucky that I kinda bounce around the groups on account of me being so delightful and fun to be around.

CHLOE

Who told you that?

FELIX

Ouch. Okay, I'm just saying I'm -

CHLOE

(cutting him off)

Is it me or is that cat following us?

GRANDMA IVY

For the record, I find you delightful, Felix.

FELIX

Thanks, Ms. L.

CHLOE

Is that your cat, Felix? It's kinda mangy.

FELIX

Not mine.

They continue to walk.

CHLOE

Look, another one!

GRANDMA IVY

Chloe, I understand this is hard for you, which is why I asked Felix

-

CHLOE

Grandma! There are, like, fifteen cats following us! Are you wearing cat nip perfume or something?

GRANDMA IVY

(chuckles)

CHLOE

Wait, is that even a cat? I think that's a hedgehog behind them!

GRANDMA IVY

It's an opossum, darling. Oscar the opossum to be exact.

CHLOE

What?!

FELIX

Animals love your grandma, Chloe. Cats, dogs, birds...You should've seen how the whole neighborhood freaked when that giraffe escaped from the zoo and showed up on her doorstep.

CHLOE

A real giraffe?

GRANDMA IVY

Lovely creature. Almost broke my porch light with those horns of hers though.

They hear a bell ring. They've arrived at the school.

FELIX

There it is - Welcome to Morro Bay Middle School.

CHLOE

You can go now, Grandma.

FELIX

I got this Ms. L.

CHLOE

Nobody asked you to "get this."

Grandma Ivy kisses her on the head.

GRANDMA IVY

Have a wonderful day, Chloe. I'll see you at home after school. Thank you, Felix. The oranges will be waiting on my front porch.

FELIX

Pleasure doing business with you.

Grandma Ivy exits with a WHOOSH of wind.

CHLOE

Okay, she's gone. You did your job. You don't have to walk me inside.

FELIX

Yeah, well, I think you're gonna want some backup.

CHLOE

For what?

RAYE SUNSHINE, queen bee, saunters over like she owns the school.

RAYE

Hey, Felix. Who's the new girl?

FELIX

This is my next door neighbor, Chloe. She moved here from Cleveland. Chloe, this is Raye.

RAYE

Raye with an E. Now it makes sense. You live with Zoo Lady.

CHLOE

The what?

RAYE

Zoo Lady. The crazy old woman who always has animals following her around town. Rumor is she feeds all those gross strays so they'll pay attention to her. So sad.

CHLOE

(defensive)

That's my grandmother. Don't talk about her like that.

RAYE

I thought I saw cats following you just now, too. Maybe we should call you "Zoo Girl."

CHLOE

(threatening)

That would be a mistake.

RAYE

Just making a joke. Don't be so sensitive.

FELIX

O-kay, we should be getting inside...

CHLOE

What is your deal?

RAYE

(chewing gum)

My deal? I was trying to be nice by introducing myself to the zoo girl. Oops, I mean new girl. You may not know this, but I'm a kind of a celebrity around here.

CHLOE

Why?

FELIX

Raye's dad is Duncan Sunshine.

(to Raye)

I don't know if that makes you a celebrity.

CHLOE

The weather guy?

RAYE

He's a doctor of meteorology.

CHLOE

But isn't the weather pretty much the same all the time here?

RAYE

Excuse me? You have no idea the kinds of anomalies we've seen recently. In just the last month, the low pressure systems have been popping up in -

FELIX  
(cutting in)  
Okay, we'll keep moving. See you  
soon, Raye. Good talk.

As they move inside.

CHLOE  
I don't like her.

FELIX  
I'm starting to get the feeling  
that you don't like anybody. See  
ya' in homeroom.

CUT TO:

101-10 INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Duncan studies a doppler screen.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE  
(muttering)  
One hundred miles per hour  
winds...Three inches of rain per  
hour...

STAGE MANAGER  
Five minutes to air, Mr. Sunshine.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE  
Thanks, Sarah. I told you to call  
me Duncan.

STAGE MANAGER  
Duncan...wow, that looks like a big  
storm brewing on the east coast.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE  
(low, proud)  
Oh, you have no idea...

STAGE MANAGER  
Excuse me?

DUNCAN SUNSHINE  
Nothing. Can I get a coffee please.  
Lots of sugar.

STAGE MANAGER  
Right away.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE

What are you up to, Mother Nature.  
What are you up to?

101-11 INT. HOMEROOM - DAY

A school bell drops us into class as Chloe walks in.

CHLOE

Is this Mr. Kortege's classroom?

MR. KORTEGE

It is indeed.

Suddenly we hear someone making CAT SOUNDS from a nearby table.

RAYE

Meow! Meow! Hisssss!

MR. KORTEGE

Raye, what are you doing?

RAYE

I'm inviting my new friend to sit next to me. I'm doing it in her own language. Listen -  
(she tries other animal sounds)  
Why aren't you answering me, Zoo Girl?

Felix arrives and comes into this.

FELIX

Raye, why don't you leave her alone?

CHLOE

I can talk just fine, Felix.  
(angry, to Raye)  
What is your problem?

RAYE

I don't have a problem. You're the one who made such a mess at your old school that they shipped you off to live with your crazy Grandma.

CHLOE

(hurt and furious)  
Did you tell her that, Felix?

FELIX  
No, I...I didn't say...

RAYE  
It's the truth, right? They sent  
you packing?

CHLOE  
What else did he tell you about me  
and my family?

FELIX  
Chloe...

CHLOE  
(getting in Raye's face)  
Come on, "Raye with an E" Sunshine.  
Say what you want to say.

RAYE  
Look, I don't know why you're  
getting all mad. It's not your  
fault your mom didn't want you  
anymore -

CHLOE  
Shut up!

Chloe SNAPS and LUNGES at Raye, who falls back over her chair  
with a scream.

RAYE  
Ow! Get your hands off me. Aaaaagh!

CHAOS ensues as everyone tries to pull them apart.

We hear a RUMBLE of THUNDER in the distance as we transition.

CUT TO:

101-12 INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Chloe is in the waiting room when Grandma Ivy arrives.

CHLOE  
(to herself)  
Here we go...

GRANDMA IVY  
Chloe?

CHLOE

(talking fast, trying to explain)

Grandma, I don't know why they called you here. I mean, they're saying it was a fight. But that wasn't a fight. I know what fights are and me pushing Raye - who deserved it, by the way - was not a fight. She literally hurled herself backwards over the chair.

GRANDMA IVY

Chloe, I -

The secretary steps out.

SECRETARY

Principal Longo will see you now, Ms. Lovejoy.

GRANDMA IVY

Thank you.

CHLOE

Grandma. Grandma -

Grandma Ivy just walks into the office.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Thanks for the vote of confidence.

PRINCIPAL LONGO

Ah, Ms. Lovejoy. Thank you for coming down to the school on such short notice.

GRANDMA IVY

Of course.

PRINCIPAL LONGO

As I told you on the phone, the incident in homeroom was very unsettling. For a student on her first day to get in an altercation in her first period class -

CHLOE

Raye started it.

GRANDMA IVY

Chloe...

PRINCIPAL LONGO

We have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to bullying and violence.

CHLOE

You're saying *I'm* the bully? I'm the bully?? I don't even want to be here.

GRANDMA IVY

That's enough, Chloe.

CHLOE

It's always my fault, right? Just like at my old school? Might as well just get it over with and throw me out on my first day. Save yourself the trouble.

PRINCIPAL LONGO

Ms. Lovejoy, do you understand why I'm so concerned about your grand daughter--

GRANDMA IVY

Do I understand? Here's what I understand. I walked my granddaughter to the door of your school trusting that you would do right by her. Instead, you allowed her to be harassed and taunted, and then you dragged her down here to this drab little office with those sad looking plants -

PRINCIPAL LONGO

Ms. Lovejoy -

GRANDMA IVY

I'm not finished, dear.

CHLOE

Whoa...

GRANDMA IVY

My granddaughter Chloe has been forced to grow up faster than any 12-year-old should ever have to. I was not a great mother to her mom because...reasons. And in turn, Chloe's mother has made her share of mistakes.

(MORE)

GRANDMA IVY (CONT'D)

But despite all of that, Chloe is a girl with such a...capacity. She is fierce and independent, but she is also loving and loyal. She is more vulnerable than she'll ever admit and stronger than she'll ever realize. I see so much in her, even if she doesn't see it in herself yet.

CHLOE

(blown away and touched)  
Grandma...

GRANDMA IVY

So, Principal Longo, you're going to give Chloe a pass on this... incident. And I'm going to take her home to get some of my favorite ice cream. Tomorrow, she starts over with a clean slate. And I expect you and your staff to make sure she's safe and happy.

PRINCIPAL LONGO

Ms. Lovejoy -

GRANDMA IVY

Thank you for your time, Principal Longo. Oh, and if you don't want all your plants to die in this dismal place you might want to water them once a millennium. Come, Chloe.

CHLOE

That was awesome...

GRANDMA IVY

I know.

With that, Grandma Ivy marches Chloe out of the office and SHUT THE DOOR behind them.

CUT TO:

101-13 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Some thunder rumbles underneath as Chloe and Grandma Ivy walk out of the school.

GRANDMA IVY

(in progress)

So we'll plant some more of those bell peppers in the garden. You seemed to like them last night.

CHLOE

Grandma?

GRANDMA IVY

And if there's something else you like just ask. Ooh, we can get some fresh honey from the bee hive this afternoon. You like honey, don't you?

CHLOE

Grandma!

GRANDMA IVY

Yes, dear?

CHLOE

Did you really mean what you said in the principal's office?

GRANDMA IVY

I always mean what I say. What's the matter?

CHLOE

No, I just...no one's ever stood up for me like that.

GRANDMA IVY

That can't be true.

CHLOE

Ever. No one has ever...said those things about me. You really believe all of that?

GRANDMA IVY

Of course I--

Suddenly, there's a big CRACK of THUNDER and the SKY OPENS up. The rain comes pouring down.

GRANDMA IVY (CONT'D)

That's not right...No, no, no...

CHLOE

Where did this storm come from? I didn't even see clouds.

GRANDMA IVY  
I have to go.

CHLOE  
Yeah, let's get to the car. What's  
this awesome ice cream place you  
were talking about?

GRANDMA IVY  
Chloe I...I can't.

CHLOE  
What?

GRANDMA IVY  
I must leave immediately.

CHLOE  
You're leaving me? In this rain?

GRANDMA IVY  
I'm sorry, I -

CHLOE  
What about ice cream? What about  
everything you just said?

ANOTHER CRACK OF THUNDER. THE RAIN INTENSIFIES.

GRANDMA IVY  
No...no, no, no, no...

She takes off. Sound of HURRIED FOOTSTEPS IN PUDDLES.

CHLOE  
Grandma? Grandma, where are you  
going?!

And just like that Chloe is all alone as the rain pours down  
over her head.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
And just like that...I'm all alone  
again.

CUT TO:

101-14 DUNCAN FORECAST

We hear Duncan's jingle.

DUNCAN SUNSHINE

Well folks, as you know, for twenty years I've been getting up every morning and doing my darndest to start your day with a smile and to give you the most accurate weather report I can. But as many of you have pointed out, your pal, Duncan, sure missed it today. Nobody could've seen that storm coming. You spend all that time studying, learning the science, tracking weather patterns...and sometimes old Mother Nature - just decides to...*change her mind*. She's been doing a lot of that lately. Good news is I'm here for you. And whatever she sends our way, we'll get through it together. It's her world. We're just paying rent.

101-15 EXT. GRANDMA IVY'S HOUSE - DAY

Chloe, fighting tears and drenched to the bone, arrives on Grandma Ivy's porch.

CHLOE

(through tears, mimicking her Grandma Ivy's words)

You have such a capacity, Chloe. I know it...in my bones. Things are about to change for you, Chloe. In ways you can't even imagine. But we'll get through it... together...You can trust me...

As she gets to the porch there are a bunch of cats, raccoons, etc. waiting there. They make noises when she arrives.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

What? More cats? And that opossum! Shoo! Get lost, all of you!

The animals SCURRY.

Chloe walks inside. All she hears are the BLEEPs and BLOOPs coming from downstairs.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Back in her basement. Of course. That's fine. It's all fine.

Chloe STOMPS upstairs in tears.

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Chloe rushes in and starts packing up her bag.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I don't know what I was thinking,  
letting them send me here. She was  
a terrible mother to Mom, why would  
she be any better as a Grandma to  
me? And I let myself believe...  
Forget it, at least at home I have  
friends. I don't need her or Mom or  
anybody...

She clicks away on her phone.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

This is why I took Mom's credit  
card. One way trip. Cleveland...

CUT TO:

101-16 EXT. GRANDMA IVY'S HOUSE/INT. CAR - DAY

Chloe arrives at the car, sees it's the same driver who  
brought her here from the airport.

CHLOE

(to herself)

At least it stopped raining.

ISMAIL

Hey, it's you. Chloe from  
Cleveland.

CHLOE

You again?

(sighs)

Are you going to grab my bag or  
not?

ISMAIL

But I thought...Never mind.

Chloe gets into the car and the Ismail gets in the front.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

So, off to the airport, huh? What  
about spending time with your  
grandma?

CHLOE

I don't belong here. I never should've come.

ISMAIL

I'm sorry to hear that. How about the crazy storm today? Where did that come from?

CHLOE

I don't want to talk anymore.

ISMAIL

Fair enough. Perfect weather for driving.

CHLOE

Just drive.

CUT TO:

101-17 INT. AIRPORT - NIGHT

We're in the middle of a small, but busy airport. Flight announcements and general chatter. Chloe approaches the airline counter.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

Can I help you, Miss?

CHLOE

Checking in for my flight to Cleveland. I booked online.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

You're flying alone?

CHLOE

Yes. I was staying with my grandmother.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

Awww. I bet she loved having you here.

CHLOE

I thought she did. I really thought it might work out...She said these amazing things about me. She even told off my principal. She's actually kinda cool. Her garden's crazy, but...but I liked it.

(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

And all the animals following her  
around. The weird house with all  
the snow globes...

The PHONE RINGS just as we hear LOUD WIND GUSTS and murmuring  
in the airport.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

Hold on just a moment.

(picking up the phone)

What? How could that be? No, I'm  
not near the window. Hold on.

(stunned)

What in the...? Let me call you  
back.

CHLOE

So are we good?

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

I'm afraid you're not going to be  
going anywhere.

CHLOE

What? Why?

Just then an announcement comes over the PA.

P.A. ANNOUNCEMENT

Attention all fliers. Due to the  
unexpected weather all flights are  
grounded until further notice. Be  
in contact with your airline for  
more information.

CHLOE

Unexpected weather? What are they  
talking about? I just walked in and  
it was fine.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

Might want to take a look at the  
window, miss.

Chloe walks to the window.

CHLOE

It's...snowing?

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

I believe they call that a  
blizzard.

CHLOE

But...it's summer...in California.

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

I'm aware.

CHLOE

Well, what are they saying? How long until this passes? When can I fly?

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

According to what they just sent me this storm is sitting right on top of us and it isn't moving at all. Nobody's going anywhere.

CHLOE

Well, what am I supposed to do? Get in a car and drive somewhere else?

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

Nobody's going to be driving anywhere in this weather.

CHLOE

I'm stuck in the airport?

AIRLINE ATTENDANT

I'm afraid we all are, sweetheart. I can call and ask for someone to - Miss? Miss? Uh, Chloe?

But Chloe is already running for the exit.

CHLOE

I gotta get out of here. I can't stay in the airport.

She rushes for the exit.

SECURITY GUARD

Young lady, you can't go out there in the storm. Young lady? Come back?

But we're with Chloe as she flies outside of the terminal. She doesn't know what she's doing, just that she feels trapped. It's BLIZZARD CONDITIONS out here. Wind and snow whipping all around.

CHLOE  
(shouting)  
What is happening?! Why is  
everything going crazy?!

Suddenly she hears a WARM VOICE cutting through the COLD  
WIND.

GRANDMA IVY  
I know it feels that way, dear.

CHLOE  
Grandma...what are you doing here?

GRANDMA IVY  
What are you doing here, Chloe?

CHLOE  
I'm going home. Or trying to.

GRANDMA IVY  
Why?

CHLOE  
I thought you were different, but  
you just... ran off. Just like mom  
said you always did. And surprise,  
surprise, I was all alone again.

GRANDMA IVY  
You're not alone. You'll never be  
alone.

CHLOE  
You left me!

GRANDMA IVY  
And I'm so sorry for that. But  
there is an --

CHLOE  
No. There's no *explanation*. No  
explanation for why Mom is Mom and  
why she sent me here. And why  
everybody treats me like a freak  
and why it's SNOWING IN CALIFORNIA!

GRANDMA IVY  
There IS a reason, dear. There's  
always a reason. Give me a moment.  
I'm not as young as I used to be.  
(clears her throat)  
(MORE)

GRANDMA IVY (CONT'D)  
Sun in the sky, warmth in the air,  
hear my cry, bring heat to bear.  
*Solis aerum calurum aeri!*

MUSIC CUE as the wind stops and the sun comes out, instantly melting the snow.

GRANDMA IVY (CONT'D)  
That's better.

CHLOE  
(shocked)  
What? How did the sun come out?  
Where did the snow go?

GRANDMA IVY  
Snow melts, dear. You really ought  
to pay better attention in science  
class.

CHLOE  
I mean...how did it...YOU did that?

GRANDMA IVY  
It's what I do, Chloe. Snow, sun,  
wind, rain...

CHLOE  
You're...

GRANDMA IVY  
Yes.

CHLOE  
A witch!

GRANDMA IVY  
No, I'm not a witch. I'm Mother  
Nature.

CHLOE  
Mother Nature...Then you...you made  
the snow happen? You caused the  
blizzard so that my plane couldn't  
fly.

GRANDMA IVY  
(chuckles)  
No, as a matter of fact, Chloe...  
you're the one who made *that*  
happen.

END OF EPISODE