

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

INT./EXT. DESKTOP - FACETIME CALL - DAY

Mom is grappling with her camera.

HESTER

Hi, Mom.

Mom puts on her glasses and squints at the screen.

MOM

For Goodness sake, would it kill you  
to open a window in there?

Hester looks to her right, and for a moment, the SILENCE of  
space returns. She looks back.

HESTER

Yes.

MOM

You haven't called.

HESTER

Yeah I know. I've been busy.

MOM

It's half past two and you're still  
in pajamas. You don't look busy.

HESTER

Sorry.

MOM

You said it wouldn't be like this  
anymore. You said that you'd take  
care of yourself. Have you even  
finished unpacking?

HESTER

I know. I'm awful.

MOM

Stop being ridiculous.  
(brightening up)  
Now how is Houston doing? Has he  
started at the new job yet?

HESTER

I don't know...he's fine. Look Mom, I  
gotta go. Can we talk later?

MOM

Where?

HESTER

What?

MOM

You said you have to go. Where do you have to go?

A long pause.

HESTER

You know that the Universe is expanding?

MOM

Okay?

HESTER

Well it doesn't make any sense...The Universe is everything and since the very beginning, it's been growing and getting further apart. But, what has it been expanding into?

MOM

Hester, tell me what's going on. Something's wrong.

HESTER

Hmm. What I mean is... What's outside, on the edge, of... everything?

(a beat)

That's um, that's where I'm going.

EXT. PURPLE PLANET - MOUNTAIN - DAY

Hester OPENS FACETIME and calls "MOM." Mom's face appears hovering in the sky, large and pixelated.

HESTER  
(voice cracking)  
Mom? Hello?

MOM  
Hester? Can you hear me?

Mom is glitching and freezing.

HESTER  
Yes Mom, I can. Can you hear me?

MOM  
Hester?

HESTER  
Hello? Mom?

MOM  
Honey, you're all static.

HESTER  
Mom! I- I don't know what to do.

MOM  
(suddenly clear)  
Hester. Stop it. I can't hear you.  
(a beat)  
Do you remember you used to hide under the kitchen table when you got upset? You would stop talking and eating and I never knew what to do... to make you come back. Hester, you're all grown-up now. So what do you want from me? When you're ready to stop this nonsense, I'm here. Waiting. Goodbye.

HESTER  
No! Mom, please don't-