

Glasshouse

written by  
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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

### **LILY**

A woman in her late twenties, emotionally guarded and determined. She struggles with her mother's legacy and the possibility of creating a healing space for herself and her brother.

### **REED**

Lily's younger brother, early twenties. Kindhearted and sensitive, he often serves as the emotional bridge, reminding Lily of the love and beauty their family once shared.

### **LILY'S MOTHER**

A perfectionist with an obsessive love for plants. Strict and emotionally distant, she channeled her nurturing into the greenhouse rather than her children. In death, her presence lingers, guiding Lily toward understanding and forgiveness.

### **LILY'S FATHER**

A warm, easygoing man with a playful sense of humor, the heart of the family. His death symbolizes the love and joy Lily struggles to hold onto.

### **YOUNG LILY**

A carefree, curious child, around 6-7 years old, before her father's death. Represents Lily's childhood longing for connection amid a chaotic upbringing.

### **TWEEN LILY**

A diligent but weary preteen, burdened by her mother's high expectations and lessons about the greenhouse after her father's death. Shows early signs of resentment and guilt that will carry into adulthood.

*LILY'S MOTHER strides onstage with two suitcases in tow. She drops them near the door before walking in with urgency and begins to tend to her plants as LILY follows behind her.*

LILY'S MOTHER

Now don't forget the vegetables need to be watered-

LILY

Monday and Thursday.

LILY'S MOTHER

And the African violet plants need to-

LILY

Stay near the heat.

LILY'S MOTHER

And also-

LILY

Check them for pests every other day.

LILY'S MOTHER

And don't even-

LILY

Look at the aloe plant because it needs nothing. Yeah, Mom, I know. I've heard it a million times. I get it.

LILY'S MOTHER

I just want to make sure everything remains in order.

LILY

You'll be gone for one week. I think they'll survive.

LILY'S MOTHER

A lot can happen in one week.

LILY

Not enough for something to die.

LILY'S MOTHER

Please just keep steady watch.

LILY

I will.

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily...

LILY

Mom, I will. Just go. Everything will be fine. Go enjoy the trip.

*LILY'S MOTHER takes a deep breath in, surveying the state of her greenhouse.*

LILY'S MOTHER

What do you think about possibly getting taro roots in here?

LILY

Mom.

LILY'S MOTHER

Okay, hun, okay. That'll be a discussion in a week's time.

*LILY'S MOTHER walks to the door, grabbing her suitcase handles and turns back to look at her greenhouse once again.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

See you soon. But remember, a lot-

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Can happen in one week.

LILY

(irritated)

Can happen in one week. Yeah, yeah. I get it.

*She plants a kiss on LILY's forehead before heading out the door.*

*There is a shift. LILY's demeanor alters. A beat passes. It's five months later, and it's clear that something has changed within the atmosphere. LILY is now more stressed, torn.*

LILY (CONT'D)

(introspective)

"A lot can happen in one week."

*She scoffs and laughs wryly.*

LILY (CONT'D)

"But not enough for something to die." At least your violet plants are still thriving, Mom.

*REED enters, carrying a flower bouquet. There's a sort of sadness between the two.*

REED

Mr. John just dropped these off for us.

*LILY looks at the flowers.*

LILY  
 (flatly)  
 Really. I think we have plenty of flowers.

REED  
 He was just trying to do something nice.

*Beat.*

REED (CONT'D)  
 It feels so...empty in here.

LILY  
 This place has always been far from empty. Look at it.

REED  
 That's not what I meant. I don't know. It just feels quiet.

LILY  
 Mom's not here anymore to tell us to tend to her Guzmania and Hibiscus and all her other needy plants.

REED  
 Every day it was something, huh? I keep expecting her to walk through the door, arms full of plants, lecturing us about nitrogen levels.

LILY  
 (sarcastically)  
 Yeah, well, "One week without care leads to wilting and mildew-

LILY (CONT'D)	REED
One month without care leads to vines, weeds, and trouble."	One month without care leads to vines, weeds, and trouble."

REED (CONT'D)  
 Remember when we forgot to water her ferns three days in a row? Man, I thought that lecture would never end.

*REED offers up a wry laugh and LILY joins for a moment before it soon dissipates in the air. They stand in silence for a beat too long.*

REED (CONT'D)  
 Well, what are we gonna do with the place?

LILY  
 Sell it with the house. What else is there to do?

REED  
 You're gonna give away all her babies? She loved these things.

LILY

What am I supposed to do with it?

REED

You can't just box up her whole life and give it away.

LILY

I'm sure there's another mother that likes to garden.

REED

Or they empty it out, keep the glass walls and stained glass, and make it a swanky indoor pool.

LILY

Sounds nice.

REED

Mom would've hated that idea.

LILY

(snappingly)

Mom's not here anymore.

*Beat.*

REED

Yeah, you're right. Do whatever.

*REED gently drops the flower bouquet on a table before quietly exiting.*

*A beat passes. LILY stares at the fresh flowers, her face unreadable. She starts toward the door but hesitates, glancing back at the bouquet. After an inward battle, she returns and picks up the flowers.*

*LILY'S MOTHER appears, standing serenely near the flowers.*

LILY'S MOTHER

What flowers are they?

LILY

Doesn't matter.

LILY'S MOTHER

You know it does. What flowers are they, Lily?

*LILY hesitates, then gives in.*

LILY

White roses, light blue delphinium, alstroemeria, and accents of baby's breath.

LILY'S MOTHER

Good. And how do we take care of assorted bundles like this?

*LILY grabs a vase, filling it with water and a sprinkle of sugar. She places the flowers inside hastily.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

You know better. Give it some love.

*LILY sighs but adjusts the flowers, fluffing and rearranging the bundle until it looks perfect.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Now, all we need is a location.

*LILY glances around and places the vase near other similar flowers.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Wonderful job, Lily. They look gorgeous. Oh, how I love new additions to the family.

*A flicker of pain crosses LILY'S face. She quickly grabs the bouquet, dumps the flowers into the sea of flowers around her, and slams the empty vase onto the table with a thud.*

*LILY'S MOTHER disappears as suddenly as she appeared.*

*LILY stands there, breathing heavily, staring at the empty vase. Overwhelmed, she walks over to the old greenhouse gnome in the corner and takes a seat next to it with a huff.*

LILY

Mom was always ... Mom. Huh, Gnomework?

*She gives the gnome a gentle rub.*

LILY (CONT'D)

At least we had Dad.

*As LILY sits, YOUNG LILY appears next to her, struggling to stealthily lift the too-heavy gnome. She stumbles toward the door with the gnome in tow.*

LILY'S DAD

Where do you think you're going?

*YOUNG LILY quickly hides the gnome behind her back, but LILY'S DAD can clearly see it.*

YOUNG LILY  
To my room.

LILY'S DAD  
To do what?

YOUNG LILY  
...my homework?

LILY'S DAD  
Nice try, Lily-pad. Show it to me.

*YOUNG LILY begrudgingly gives her dad the gnome.*

LILY'S DAD (CONT'D)  
(laughing)  
This looks more like Gnomework than homework to me. What's the plan with this fella?

YOUNG LILY  
I'm trying to rescue him, Dad. We have to take him away from here!

LILY'S DAD  
Rescue him from what?

YOUNG LILY  
He's the Guardian of the Greenhouse. Mom just said he's been here since before I was born.

LILY'S DAD  
The Guardian, huh? Doesn't look like he's doing a stellar job.

YOUNG LILY  
He just needs a break! He's stuck here with Mom's plants all the time. That's awful!

LILY'S DAD  
Oh, I see. You're liberating him, huh? Giving him a cushier gig?

YOUNG LILY  
Yes.

LILY'S DAD  
All right. I guess I can't say no to saving a life.

*He takes the gnome and stuffs it under his shirt, creating a ridiculous, misshapen bump.*

LILY'S DAD (CONT'D)  
We'll keep the name Gnomework. It suits him.

YOUNG LILY

It's perfect!

LILY'S DAD

Then let's take Gnomework to his new home.

*YOUNG LILY and LILY'S DAD exit joyously.*

LILY

(to Gnomework)

No matter how many times we took you, you'd always end back here. Sorry, bud.

*LILY gets up and breathes in and out deeply.*

LILY (CONT'D)

(introspective)

Out of all the hobbies, why plants? I wish you hoarded coins or anything else. That, at least would've been worth something.

*She lazily kicks a vine on the floor. There is a shift.*

*Her mother strolls in carrying new lilies, sets them on a table, and begins to tend to them as she says-*

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily...

*LILY looks at her mother. YOUNG LILY dawdles on from the opposite direction.*

YOUNG LILY

Yeah, I know...

YOUNG LILY (CONT'D)

Don't kick the vines.

LILY'S MOTHER

Don't kick the vines.

*LILY turns her head to see YOUNG LILY.*

YOUNG LILY (CONT'D)

I don't get it. I thought Pot hose-

LILY'S MOTHER

Pothos.

YOUNG LILY

(sighs, rolling her eyes)

I thought they were some of your low-maintenance plants. It's not gonna die from being kicked.

LILY'S MOTHER

And neither would you. But I'm sure you don't like it when someone kicks you.

YOUNG LILY

Well, I can feel it. Pothos is a plant, Mom.

LILY'S MOTHER

You know that plants are alive.

YOUNG LILY

Yeah, I know, but they aren't alive like me. They don't feel pain. You know what I mean.

LILY'S MOTHER

They might not feel pain like us, but plants do feel.

YOUNG LILY

(dismissively)

Okay, sure.

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily-

YOUNG LILY

I get it. I won't kick the pot hose.

LILY'S MOTHER

You know that's not the name.

YOUNG LILY

It doesn't-

LILY'S MOTHER

Say it's name correctly.

*YOUNG LILY and LILY'S MOTHER share a look that lasts a thoughtful moment.*

YOUNG LILY

Pothos.

LILY'S MOTHER

(smiles)

Good. Can you name the others? Start from the wall behind you and point at them and tell me their names.

YOUNG LILY

I don't want to do this again.

LILY'S MOTHER

It's good practice.

YOUNG LILY

Practice for what? I'm not gonna have a greenhouse when I grow up. I'm gonna have a pool.

LILY'S MOTHER

Start naming the plants. Go.

YOUNG LILY

Okay, I get it. I won't kick your Pothos. And it's called Pothos. And your Pothos-

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily //

YOUNG LILY

Can feel because it's alive and-

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily //

YOUNG LILY

And me kicking it is as bad as someone kicking me-

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily. Come here.

*YOUNG LILY stops speaking but doesn't move.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Come.

*She drags her feet over.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

I want to show you something. Look at what's just reached full bloom. Aren't they beautiful?

*Beat.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Lily...

YOUNG LILY

Yes, they're pretty.

LILY'S MOTHER

Do you know what kind of plants these are?

YOUNG LILY

Lilies. You've told me so many times.

LILY'S MOTHER

Correct. And what do you know about lilies?

YOUNG LILY

They're native to the Northern Hemisphere, typically have six petals, come in many different colors-

LILY'S MOTHER

Lilies are radiant and serene and vibrant. And so are you. That's why-

YOUNG LILY

That's why you named me Lily.

LILY'S MOTHER

That's why you are my Lily. You hold radiance, serenity, and vibrancy just like these little ladies here. And so if you can feel pain, so can they. It might not be the type of pain you think of, but lilies are still living creatures. You must treat them with love. Understand?

*Beat.*

*LILY'S MOTHER lovingly tugs on YOUNG LILY's ear.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Understand?

*YOUNG LILY begrudgingly nods as she maneuvers out of her mother's grasp.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Good. And don't forget it.

*LILY'S MOTHER dusts off her hands.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

I think Pothos and lilies are enough plant naming for today? Let's go, hun.

*Her mother exits, and YOUNG LILY follows suit after sticking her tongue out at the plant in anger.*

LILY

(pointedly, to the vines)

She's not here anymore to make sure you don't get kicked, huh Pot hose?

(beat)

Look at me talking to you like she did. Her precious babies.

*A faint laugh is heard as LILY'S MOTHER walks back onstage to water her plant.*

LILY'S MOTHER

You know, Lily, plants are a bit like people. They need just the right amount of attention, not too much, not too little.

LILY

What about us, Mom? What about your children?

*LILY'S MOTHER continues to tend to her plant without acknowledging LILY's words.*

LILY (CONT'D)

Mom.

(beat)

Mom.

(beat)

Mom!

*She approaches her mother but she disappears. Instead, she finds a worn scrapbook, edges frayed with pressed flowers on the cover tucked between some plants.*

*She flips through the pages, smiling faintly at pressed flowers and scribbled notes. She finds a note tucked inside.*

LILY (CONT'D)

(reading, smiling)

"My favorite little artists."

*LILY flips over the note, and her smile falters.*

LILY (CONT'D)

(quietly bitter)

... Written on the back of fern care instructions. Classic.

*She sets the scrapbook down on the table as her mother appears once again, writing avidly in the book.*

*YOUNG LILY enters, searching for a spot to snoop on her mother. Her face lights up as she crouches behind a large pot as she watches her mom write.*

*YOUNG LILY bumps into a pot, knocking it over with a loud thud. Soil spills out onto the floor.*

*LILY'S MOTHER drops her pen to quickly run and scoop up her plant.*

LILY'S MOTHER

You need to be careful with these, Lily. They're delicate.

*LILY'S MOTHER strided out the door with her plant in hand, leaving YOUNG LILY, alone and bitter.*

*It softens as LILY'S DAD enters, whispers to her, and then signals "sshh" with his finger before closing his eyes, covering them with his hands.*

LILY'S DAD

I'm counting to ten. One, two, three..

*As LILY'S DAD counts, YOUNG LILY starts to smile as she runs to hide. She's not very stealthy, but by ten, she finds a not-so-good spot.*

LILY'S DAD (CONT'D)

Ready or not, here I come.

*YOUNG LILY is clearly visible yet still he pretends to search for her.*

LILY'S DAD (CONT'D)

Okay, you've got me Lily pad. I can't find you.

YOUNG LILY

(poking out)

Here I am!

LILY'S DAD

Aah, there you are! How'd you do that? You're so good!

*They laugh together before walking out of the greenhouse.*

*LILY smiles broadly. With a newfound joy, she gets up and begins to move around a pot, then another, then another.*

*REED enters, watching her for a moment.*

REED

Never thought I'd see the day when you were in here working voluntarily. Guess you're in a better mood.

LILY

Trying to stage things. For buyers.

*LILY moves a large pot with a cast iron plant near the window. REED stiffens.*

REED

You know you can't do that.

LILY

Do what?

REED

You know what you're doing.

LILY

If you say it's because of the sun-

REED

You know that mom's cast irons can't have direct sunlight.

LILY

It looks better here. People can have a better walking path if they're out of the way.

REED

But they'll die.

LILY

Not before the house tours are over.

REED

You're killing them.

LILY

Does it matter? It's just a bunch of plants, Reed.

REED

They were *hers*. You know what these meant to her.

LILY

They're already dead, Reed. She's gone — the plants are just waiting to catch up.

REED

I don't understand what's wrong with you? Our mother just died and you're so adamant on destroying everything of hers.

LILY

She's not here anymore, Reed. We've got to do something to this place. And she spent enough time here to make up for years to come. She fussed over every leaf and petal. She cared about this place more than—

REED

Stop it.

LILY

She cared about it more than *us*! More than safety.

(beat)

She ... She couldn't leave it behind, not even on that stupid trip. She was so obsessed she thought she could hike into an off-limits area for some plants. Plants. And now she's gone.

*Beat.*

LILY (CONT'D)

She was so possessive. So fucking possessive. Especially after Dad... Especially after...

*YOUNG LILY comes on stage from one side. From the other, approaches TWEEN LILY. They circle one another before YOUNG LILY disappears.*

*TWEEN LILY stares down the plants. She approaches one and reaches out her hand to touch it before LILY'S MOM quickly swoops in and bats her hand away.*

LILY'S MOTHER

Don't touch it! Don't touch anything.

TWEEN LILY

I wasn't going-

LILY'S MOTHER

Yes you were. Now get out.

TWEEN LILY

But-

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily, go. Practice your plant naming in the house, and learn their harms.

*LILY'S MOTHER shoos TWEEN LILY out the door. She looks at her plant, touching its pot gingerly before exiting as well.*

LILY

You don't know anything.

REED

What don't I know? She liked her plants, so what? Other moms like to crochet or read or bake. I spent my whole life knowing Mom loved this place. It's where she was happy. But you--you act like it's some curse. Like these plants did something to you. You hated her when she was alive, but you can't at least grieve for her now that she's dead?

*Beat.*

REED (CONT'D)

I just wish you'd stop acting like loving her has to hurt.

*REED exits. LILY follows him out.*

*There's a shift once again. TWEEN LILY sits at the table, hunched over a notebook. She's exhausted, rubbing her eyes, her head slumped onto her arm.*

LILY'S MOTHER

What's the ideal temperature for a Caryota to thrive?

*TWEEN LILY's eyelids flutter as she looks up, the fatigue evident on her face. She stifles a yawn, fumbling for the answer in her tired mind.*

TWEEN LILY

Uh... 70 to 85 degrees... Fahrenheit...

LILY'S MOTHER

Not "uh", Lily. *Exact.* 75 degrees. Next question. Which species of fern is most tolerant to low light conditions?

TWEEN LILY

The *Nephrolepis exaltata* ... the Boston Fern...

LILY'S MOTHER

Yes. Correct. What's the pH level range of soil ideal for a Cactus?

TWEEN LILY

6 to 7?

LILY'S MOTHER

No. 5.5 to 6.5. You need to pay closer attention to these details, Lily.

TWEEN LILY

Mom, it's almost eleven. Can we stop?

LILY'S MOTHER

Just a few more. What's the ideal humidity for a Philodendron to thrive?

TWEEN LILY

60 to 70 percent ...

LILY'S MOTHER

Correct.

TWEEN LILY

Mom, I'm so tired--

LILY'S MOTHER

Now tell me, what's the best way to propagate a Begonia?

TWEEN LILY

Leaf ... leaf cuttings. But Mom--

LILY'S MOTHER

What plants in here specifically are poisonous if ingested?

TWEEN LILY

(standing, voice rising)

Mom!

*For the first time, LILY'S MOTHER looks at her.*

TWEEN LILY (CONT'D)

I'm going to bed.

LILY'S MOTHER

We have five more minutes.

TWEEN LILY

I'm done.

LILY'S MOTHER

You can't be done. If you make one wrong move, you can...

*Her words trail off. An unspoken conversation passes between them.*

*LILY enters, now in business wear, carrying a purse, watching the silent face-off.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Okay. That's enough for tonight. Goodnight, hun.

*TWEEN LILY exits and her mother follows suit.*

LILY

Dieffenbachia, oleander, foxglove, pothos, angel's trumpet... and water hemlock...are poisonous if ingested.

*LILY's phone rings. She answers it.*

LILY (CONT'D)

(on the phone)

Really? What about issues from the walkthrough? ... None at all? ... Great ... Yes, of course...I can be there in an hour to sign ... Okay ... See you then, and thanks again.

*LILY picks up her purse and begins to head toward the door but stops as REED enters.*

REED

So this is it then?

LILY

Yup! Going over to sign the closing documents now.

*She starts towards the door again.*

REED

Who's it going to?

LILY

Some guy and his wife. They flip houses and sell them.

REED

What are they gonna do here?

LILY

The real estate agent just told me that they're gonna turn it into a sunroom. Apparently sunrooms are more coveted than greenhouses.

REED

If you don't sign the papers, we can still keep it.

LILY

Don't start-

REED

You know she loved us in her own way. This was her escape, her-her way to breathe.

LILY

And what about us? What's our escape, Reed? Because right now, it feels like I'm buried in all of her old plants, her old problems, and I can't breathe. And I don't need this right now. We're so close to being done with here for good.

REED

Lily, please.

LILY

No. I'm not doing this with you. Not anymore. This is my responsibility and I'm so close to being done with it.

REED

Your attitude through this whole thing has made it impossible to grieve Mom. You always want to push a conversation about Mom to the side or take a jab at her. Lily, she died less than two months ago. Our mother.

LILY

I don't understand how you care so much for someone who didn't care for us.

REED

That's not true.

LILY

Don't you remember when we were scared of thunderstorms as children, huddling together. And instead of being comforted by our own mother, she'd leave our house to come here to watch over her plants? Or when you burnt yourself on Mr. Clay's motorcycle and were crying nonstop and the first thing she said was she had aloe vera in the greenhouse but didn't know if your injury called for her to cut into it just yet?

Or instead of celebrating our math test grades she would tell us that if only she could give us tests on naming her plants. Then maybe we'd care. Her damn plants.

REED

You know that she never meant it like that-

LILY

Or when Dad died.

REED

Lily-

LILY

When Dad died because she kept water hemlock in here. Water hemlock, Reed. She kept hemlock in here and...and...

*A long silence juts in.*

*YOUNG LILY prances on stage holding water hemlock with a chef's hat on her head and a mug in hand with WORLD'S GREATEST FATHER written on it. She places the hemlock in the mug, stirring it with a spoon and happily taking out the plant before running offstage to give to her father.*

*Another beat of silence follows the sequence.*

LILY (CONT'D)

Water hemlock. In a backyard greenhouse. Those plants- I killed him.

REED

What? You're saying he died because of that plant? No, Lily, that's not-

LILY

I mixed it into his tea. I...I was seven. I didn't know...I-

REED

That's not...Mom said...I always thought-

LILY

She lied.

REED

No. Why would she lie?

LILY

She thought it was better that way.

REED

Better? How is that better? How is finding out now, after all this time, better?

LILY

It's not. I know it's not. But you were a baby.

REED

A baby. So you both decided I didn't need to know for the rest of my life?

LILY

I didn't know how to tell you, Reed. I didn't want to hurt you.

REED

So I had to grow up, my whole life, thinking my Dad died from a heart attack but he died--

LILY

Because of me. Yes.

REED

No--

LILY

You were only a few months old. You didn't know anything yet. We could've told you Dad died in his sleep, or in a car crash, or that he just...left. And you'd have believed it. So she lied. She made me lie too--over and over--like it would keep you safe somehow. Like pretending would make it less awful. She didn't even get rid of the plants. Any sane person would've ripped them out, burned them to the ground, after what happened. But not Mom. She just got worse. Turned this place into her shrine, filled it with more rare, dangerous, stupid plants. And me? I didn't get a childhood. I got lessons. Names, Latin classifications, how to tell the difference between a harmless wild carrot and a goddamn water hemlock. That's what killed him, Reed. That's what killed Dad. And she just...kept it here. Right in this greenhouse. Like it was a trophy. Like keeping it alive was more important than the fact that he wasn't. So before you keep talking about how important these plants are to Mom, remember how cultivating the world's most intricate greenery was more important than protecting our lives. Dad's life.

*LILY begins to cry.*

LILY (CONT'D)

And you never got to know him. He was the best dad anyone could ever ask for and you never got to know him.

REED

Lily, you were seven. I don't blame you for what happened.

LILY

She blamed me. She tried not to at first. But I know she believed that it happened because I never listened to her dumb lectures. So she nailed it into me even more so after his death. And I blamed her. For always putting this...this shrine above us. Above Dad, above you and me.

REED

Maybe it wasn't about putting it above us. Maybe it was all she knew how to do after Dad died. She held onto this place because it was the one thing she felt she could control.

LILY

Are you not listening to anything I'm saying? What's your name?

*Beat.*

LILY (CONT'D)

Reed. What's mine?

*Beat.*

LILY (CONT'D)

Lily. She named us after fucking plants. Not after an important ancestor or a meaningful character from a book or even a name that she just thought sounded nice. We were named after her plants. This greenhouse was a glasshouse where we had to carefully tend to them, learn everything about them, and do everything perfectly--for plants. Plants. And those plants killed Dad, they killed her, and I'm not going to let them kill me next.

*Beat.*

REED

I'm not defending her choices. But I can't let you... you can't just erase it all like that. Like it meant nothing. Maybe you're right. Maybe the plants killed her, maybe they killed Dad. But I'm not ready to let go of all of this yet. But I can't keep fighting you on this.

*REED exits.*

*LILY goes to exit, but stops once again as she hears a voice coming from behind her.*

LILY'S MOTHER

Don't do it.

*LILY turns around to her mother.*

LILY

I am tired of hearing you tell me what to do.

LILY'S DAD

Don't do it, Lily pad.

*LILY'S DAD appears behind her mother.*

LILY

Dad.

LILY'S DAD

This place--it's heavy. Full of memories, good and bad. I know it feels like it's suffocating you, like the only way to breathe is to let it go. But this greenhouse... it's more than just a reminder of what's gone. It's a part of you, Lily. Just like it was a part of her, and a part of me. It's not just plants. It's where we laughed. Where we argued. Where you learned, grew, made mistakes. Where you poured yourself into something, even when you didn't realize you were doing it.

LILY

No, I can't take care of it like she did. I don't even want to.

LILY'S DAD

You don't have to do it like she did. You're not her. You're you. And you'll find your own way with it. It doesn't have to be perfect. It just has to be yours. You've got more strength in you than you realize. And this place? It's not just her legacy. It's yours too.

LILY

(a whisper)

I miss you, Dad.

LILY'S DAD

I miss you too, Lily pad. But I'm always here. I'm one game of hide-and-seek or one gnome-saving away. You'll find me in the cracks of this place. And within those cracks you'll find another--a space for you to grow. I bet you know all about growing things, huh?

LILY

(small smile)

Real funny, Dad.

LILY'S DAD

(to LILY'S MOTHER)

What do you need to grow, Catherine? I know you're itching to say it. And give us the For Dummies answer.

LILY'S MOTHER

I actually wasn't planing on saying anything, Henry.

*Beat.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Light, water, air, nutrients, and space.

*LILY laughs at her mother's predictability.*

LILY'S DAD

This is your space, Lily pad. And I'm sure you'll find all those other things in here too.

*LILY smiles broadly.*

LILY'S MOTHER

Lily, my sweet girl. I want you to know that you and your brother are the greatest things I've ever gotten the opportunity to nurture. And I mean it. I see now I was too strict, too afraid to lose you. I pushed you out of fear, and now I see that it felt to be out of cruelty. Please know that.

*LILY'S MOTHER approaches LILY, slowly at first before quickly wrapping her arms around LILY from the back.*

*Surprised, LILY stands rigid for a second before settling into the hug. TWEEN LILY appears in front of LILY settling into her front also relishing in the hug. Soon follows YOUNG LILY who joins in front of TWEEN LILY.*

LILY'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

I love you. So much. Take care of-

LILY

Your African violets?

LILY'S MOTHER

Take care of yourself, my love.

*With that, YOUNG LILY and TWEEN LILY disappear once again, and LILY'S MOTHER breaks out of the hug, walking towards LILY'S FATHER, grabbing his hand.*

*With one last loving glance, they leave, hand in hand.*

*LILY looks around her, taking in the sight of the greenhouse. REED enters.*

REED

Thought you would've left already.

LILY

I'm not selling it.

REED

What?

I'm not selling it. LILY

But- REED

Do you want me to change my mind? LILY

*They stare each other down before REED breaks out a large smile which is soon followed by LILY's.*

How would you feel about co-owning a greenhouse? LILY (CONT'D)

You don't want to turn it into a swanky pool? REED  
(jokingly)

I think we can still fit the pool outside. LILY

Perfect. REED

Then it's settled. It's ours. Forever. LILY

*REED runs to hug LILY.*

Let's grow something new together. LILY (CONT'D)

BLACKOUT.