I could not move my body and my vision was blurry. I heard footsteps and Damon asking “Jenny what are you doing here?”

Jenny looked pale and exhausted. She netted her eyebrows in confusion: “I guess It’s me who should ask this question! Me and mom have been looking for Alice. We followed her but all of a sudden she was gone and we felt so worried about her”

Damon sighed and then mumbled: “We are all worried and exhausted. Since my being here in this cursed city, my attempts to find an evidence about the incidence always end up in failure”

He looked at Jenny and pointed out to where I was.

I saw them running toward me and heard Jenny’s mom begging them to stop.

I heard Jenny stuttering: “Alice, Alice what happened to you?” I couldn’t answer.

Damon gasped” Oh my God, we should call for help, but what is that sparing roc fragment on her chest?”

He tried to stand up but felt dizzy and fell down. Jenny tried to help but felt she could not move her body. A moment later, they both fainted.

The rock fragment was shining and its brilliance was getting stronger. My vision is getting blurry and that was when I lost consciousness.

I opened my eyes and found myself in a dark quiet place. Jenny and Damon were there too. I woke them up. The place was cold and scary. All we could hear was our own footsteps, we walked towards the graves in front of us. They were many, like a sea of the dead.

I gasped “Do you see what I’m seeing guys?”

Jenney stammered with tears in her eyes: “I can’t believe my eyes! aren’t these our names and our parents’ names on the graves?”

Damon stared in disbelief and whispered: “Alice look at our fathers’ date of death on the graves! it is today`s date?”

All the graves were covered except one. It was mom’s grave! We walked towards it shivering from fear.

Jenny said gazing at the grave bewilderedly: “Can you see the words on the grave curb?

I approached and tried to read them: “yes, it says every action has consequences. stop looking for me”

I wondered: “What does that mean?”

“It could be an encrypted message. Maybe your mom is trying to tell us something Alice” whispered Damon

We tried to examine the curb but suddenly we fell down the grave. We didn’t feel anything as if everything happened in the blink of an eye. When we opened our eyes, we found ourselves in a small stifling room that resembles a lab.

On the corner, we saw a woman with a pale face and a weak body lying on a bed with lots of cables attached to her.

She looked at me and murmured: “Alice my dear, I missed you so much. Look at you. You are becoming a young beautiful lady”

I couldn’t believe my eyes. I was speechless and paralyzed. I felt tears rolling down face. Then I sobbed: “Mom is that you? Am I dreaming? What happened to you? Where have you been all this time? Why did you abandon me?

I wanted to hug her. I walked toward her but then I saw my mom raising her hand with difficulty and whispered:

“No, Alice. Please stop. Stay where you are otherwise you will ruin everything. I have never abandoned you. I don’t have much time. So, listen very carefully”

I tried to talk “mom…” but she interrupted: “Do you still remember the explosion of that day?

“Yes, we do” we replied

She continued saying: “I know about the rock that caused the explosion”.

Jenny, Damon and me were confused and felt our mind was bombarded with lots of questions but we chose to listen and not interrupt her.

“Alice, I was working with your father in the lab of space research, and I was asked by the government to be in charge of doing research on an odd rock that was found in a deserted land. This unfortunately coincided with your birth. I couldn’t spend much time with you and that’s why you can’t remember me”

 Jenny was perplexed and had to ask “Oh my God! But how come that we were able to reach that rock”?

Mom replied in a calm and sad tone: “One day, while taking the rock to the lab for research, there was a problem with the plane and consequently crashed. We found out later that we have magical powers because of the rock radiations. But unfortunately, these powers will harm you in case you are exposed to those radiations again”

I had a lot of confusing questions. After a few second of silence, I wondered: “what are all these cables around you? Why are you here? Why didn’t you tell me this before?

Mom looked at me with sad eyes and then she said in a calm tone: “That was for your own good Alice. After the explosion, the radiations were active in your bodies because of that rock. When I carried you in an attempt to save you, the radiations penetrated my body but they didn’t give me any powers like you. Instead I got a dangerous contagious disease that put me in a coma for all these years”.

Damon shouted in disbelief: “so you have the rock radiations in your body now…”

Mom confirmed: “Yes, I do. When you gathered around that shining rock fragment, I woke up from the coma and I was able to connect with you by this vision and now you have to go away before that vision becomes a reality”.

I cried: “what? Is that merely a visi..?``

I couldn’t finish my sentence because of a weird feeling of exhaustion. Suddenly, I lost consciousness.

An hour later, we found themselves in Jenny’s house. We all looked pale, exhausted.

We could not utter a word as we were shocked.

We heard the voice of Jenny’s mom saying: “Oh, finally you opened your eyes, I was so worried about you, Are you all okay? I asked you to stop that dangerous search”

Jenny stuttered: “how did we get here? That was unbelievable! Did you see what I saw guys?”

Damon replied: “My head aches because of all those weird stories”

“What happened? What did you see?” Jenny's mother wondered.

After some minutes of deadly silence, I shouted: “we know all what you have been hiding about my mom. And now you have to tell us where my father is”

Jenney’s mom saw determination and insistence in my eyes. She hesitated for a while and then said: “Well, you are all too young to know the whole truth but I have to say that your dad and Damon’s went to the planet where the damned rock fell hoping to find a cure for your mom. They are all okay and they are about to find a cure. They have just sent us their picture there. So, don’t worry”.

She stopped talking for a while and then continued: “After that explosion, they gathered all the fragments of the rock except one. And obviously, you were the only one who was able to see it. So, you have to give us that fragment before something bad such as the radiation incident happens again. You saw what happened to you all a while ago”.

I could not believe. I protested: “But this is the only way to see my mother again. I can’t lose this chance after all these years waiting eagerly to see her. Where is the rock fragment?”

Jenny tried to calm me down: “It is dangerous Alice. The rock fragment is in a safe place. Wait until your father comes with a cure and then you will you meet your mother again”.

I said with tears in my eyes “I am tired of waiting. Now, I know why my uncle hates me. I was responsible for his sister’s sickness…”

Damon grabbed my shoulders and looked me in the eyes: “Don’t be selfish Alice. Do you want to put us all at risk?”

I was lost. I didn’t know what to do. I wanted to see my mom again. I wanted to know the whole truth. I thought for a moment and then I had an idea.

I asked Jenny’s mom in a calm tone: “Okay, now I understand. I am feeling so exhausted and so thirsty. could you please give me a glass of water?

When I saw Jenny’s mom disappearing, I looked at Jenney and Damon and said: “I think I need to have some rest”.

I went to Jenny’s mom bedroom looking for the roc fragment. I opened the closed and I found it. I hit it in my bag. While trying to get out of the window, I heard the phone ringing. I checked the number. It was the space agency’ number. I took the phone and uttered: “hello”

And then I heard a sad voice saying: “We have just got very bad news. The two agents we sent to space are dead. We think someone has found the lost rock fragement”