

OMORI

Episode 101
"White Space"

Written for the screen by

Payne Patchett

Based on the video game by
OMOCAT, LLC.

Hikikomori /hi`kēke`mōri/

noun (plural same)

- the abnormal avoidance of social contact, typically by adolescent males
- a person who avoids social contact

Origin:

Japanese, literally 'staying indoors, (social) withdrawal'

Oxford Dictionary of English, Third Edition

OVER BLACK

Over the sound of someone crying profusely:

BLONDE HAIR (O.S.)
Don't worry. Everything is going to
be okay.

I/E. PITCH BLACK DARKNESS

A bright light leaks through the bottom of a black wooden door.

Blocking the stream, a young boy with BLACK HAIR is sitting in a fetal position, wiping tears from his eyes, distraught beyond belief.

Crouched next to him is another young boy with BLONDE HAIR.

Their faces are completely obscured by black, animated scribbles.

Despite this, their demeanor makes it crystal clear that something terribly, horribly, dreadfully wrong has just occurred.

Blonde puts his hands on Black's shoulders, consoles him.

BLONDE HAIR
No matter what happens, promise me
we'll always be there for each
other.
(pause)
Promise me...

I/E. WHITE SPACE

A barren white void. An emptiness, a home without warmth. A place to survive, but not to live.

Overhead, a black bulb is connected to a wire which fades into oblivion the further it ascends.

Lying on a large white blanket, a young kid listlessly stares at the bulb. This is OMORI (12).

He looks exactly like the kid with black hair in the first scene. **Keep this in mind for later.**

Around him: An open laptop. A sketchbook. A tissue box. His pet cat, Mewo. A white door sits to the north.

He stands up, turns to Mewo.

MEWO

Meow (Waiting for something to happen?)

Note: Mewo's dialogue in parentheses is spoken in voiceover.

He then heads for the door and enters--

INT. NEIGHBOR'S ROOM - **HEADSPACE**

A BIG YELLOW CAT looms through an open ceiling down at a playroom adorned with bright pinks, light blues and violet purples.

Toys are scattered across the floor. A box TV, playing the railroad scene from "Stand By Me", sits on a white table.

To the right, a multicolored staircase leads up to an open doorway on the far wall, which emits a bright white light.

In the middle of the room, three kids, AUBREY TRISTESSE (12), KELSEY 'KEL' VICENTE (11) and his older brother HENRY 'HERO' VICENTE (16) play a game of cards.

AUBREY

Kel, you jerk!

KEL

What are you looking at me for, Aubrey? You're the one who messed up all the cards!

HERO

There's no need to get angry. It's just a game, after all.

KEL

Don't give me that, Hero! You're just saying that 'cause you were losing.

HERO

Still. You never know when he's going to come back and--

Mid-sentence, Aubrey spots Omori, grabs a giant eggplant plushie next to her and heads towards him.

AUBREY

Hey, Omori! I'm glad you're here.
Kel was being mean to me. He hid
Mr. Plantegg again!

She presses the plushie towards her chest. It's almost as big
as her.

KEL

What?! That's not fair. You're the
one who started it.

HERO

Would you two give it a rest
already?! You guys need to learn
how to play nice with each other,
okay?

Both defeated:

KEL

Alright.

AUBREY

Okay.

HERO

Now, since Omori's here, let's get
going. They're waiting for us.

Omori, Aubrey and Kel trail behind Hero up the stairs. The
eyes of the cat follow them as they walk through the doorway.

EXT. TREE STUMP - VAST FOREST - **HEADSPACE**

A tree stump with a gaping hole on one of its sides sits in
the middle of a patch of grass.

In the distance, a red ladder goes high into the bright night
sky.

Hero is the first to climb out of the hole, followed by Kel,
and then Omori.

Aubrey is about to climb out when--she gets stuck.

AUBREY

Hey, guys. Can I get some help
here?

Omori grabs Aubrey's hand, frees her out of the stump.

Her cheeks blushing, she wraps her arms around Omori's arm as
they continue walking.

EXT. FOREST PLAYGROUND - VAST FOREST - **HEADSPACE**

A modest playground, similar to any other site at a local park.

Numerous small groups of peculiar children populate its many attractions. Some humanoid in nature. Others not so much.

Near the entrance, BASIL MONIA (12) and MARI SUZUKI (16) are lying on a picnic blanket, in conversation.

Basil's curly blonde hair and physical features reveal to the audience that, while his face was not shown, this *is* the same person who was comforting black hair in the first scene.

As they talk, Basil absently toys with a camera hanging around his neck before adjusting a flower crown on his head.

HERO
Hey, Mari!

MARI
(looks up; waves)
Hey, guys!

The gang arrives at the--

PICNIC BLANKET

--and sit down next to the pair.

AUBREY
Kel's being mean to me again!!

MARI
Oh, not again. Kel?!

KEL
I'm not being mean! Aubrey's just being all whiny.

MARI
(jokingly)
Well, you just made a very convincing point. Now I don't know who to believe.

AUBREY
Believe me!

KEL
No, believe me!

HERO
Hey, settle down, you two.
(sighs)
(MORE)

HERO (CONT'D)
Why does it always have to be like
this?

MARI
Keep your chin up, Hero. Look at
you, being all responsible.

HERO
(blushes)
Not now, Mari. Come on.

Mari playfully chuckles at Hero's reaction.

Meanwhile--

KEL
Hey, Basil. Basil! Over here!
Take a picture of me with my new
pet rock!

Kel pulls a rock out of his pocket, shows it to Basil.

KEL (CONT'D)
Look at the magical glory that is
Hector, the Pet Rock!

With Hector in his hand, Kel does a Power Ranger pose.

BASIL
Sorry, Kel. Those aren't the kind
of pictures I take.

KEL
What? Awesome ones?

BASIL
Not that. I only take pictures of
people when they least expect it.
There's something special about
everyone living their own lives.

KEL
So do we just have to pretend
you're not there?

BASIL
I guess you can put it that way.

As they talk--

--two kids from the playground, BERLY, a lizard-human hybrid,
and VAN, a large light-green orc, approach them.

BERLY

Hey, guys!

They all turn to the pair.

BERLY (CONT'D)

How would like to take part in the best, greatest, most awesome-est plan you've ever seen?

HERO

Berly, is it hide and seek again?

A pause.

BERLY

(depleted)

So much for the surprise.

VAN

Would you like to play with us?

KEL

You know how it turned out last time, right?

AUBREY

Yeah, I'm gonna have to pass on this one.

BERLY

Why are you two still trying to avoid me? Is it my face? My rough-and-tough exterior? Do you realize that this impeccable bravado and sheer intimidation is what banned Boss from the playground after last time? I even put up that sign over there.

Berly points to a poster on a wooden board near the park entrance.

It reads: **NO BOSS ZONE! VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED** alongside a crossed-out image of an upright purple rhinoceros, which one would assume would be Boss.

HERO

Do anyone else wanna play hide and seek?

MARI

My knee is still bugging me so I'll have to sit this one out.

HERO

And Basil?

BASIL

I'm good with whatever.

(turns to Omori)

What about you, Omori?

Before Omori can even get a chance to respond:

BERLY

Omori. Sweet, sweet Omori. Buddy. Pal. Compadre. My best-est friend in the WHOLE WORLD. I think you, out of everyone, would let out a sigh of relief to know the appropriate measures have been taken to make sure things go as pristine as possible. This time, nothing will go wrong. Don't worry. Everything is going to be okay.

(pause)

Do you want to play hide-and-seek, Omori?

Omori nods: Yes.

BERLY (CONT'D)

That's what I thought. I'll go round everyone up.

EXT. FOREST PLAYGROUND - VAST FOREST - LATER

Right in front of a tetherball pole in the middle of the playground. Berly stands across the rest of the kids as if he's a army general.

The group is broken up into two rows:

In the front row, we have Van; SHARLEEN, a tall, round creature with shaggy purple hair; MIKAL, a monkey; HAPPY, a sentient candy corn; BROWS, a small pink and white creature with thick brows and BANGS, a disembodied head with purple bangs.

In the back row, we have BUN, a small creature with a large pink bun and rosy cheeks, NOSE, a short creature whose face is just her nose, Hero, Kel, Aubrey, Basil and Omori.

Aubrey and Kel bear looks of discontent. After all, they did decline her offer the first time.

Berly blows a small whistle.

BERLY

Alright, maggots! Here's how we will play. In my hand are thirteen straws. One for each of you. The one with the straw that has the red tip will be "it" and will have to find everyone else.

Berly paces through the group and lets each person pick a straw out of her hand...with the exception of Bangs, who holds it in his mouth.

BERLY (CONT'D)

Alright, show me your straws!

They raise their straws in the air.

From her station up front, Berly checks all of the sticks in the air. She finds the red tip and spots the person holding it.

It belongs to--

BERLY (CONT'D)

Looks like Omori will be "it".

AUBREY

But Omori doesn't like to be alone.

HERO

Are you going to be okay?

BASIL

I can take your place if you want.
I don't mind.

As Berly approaches Omori:

BERLY

Hey, the straws make the rules, not me. And last I checked, straws can't talk.

(to Omori)

You're gonna be fine. Just start counting on the pole and we'll get started.

Omori quickly glances to Basil, who gives him a thumbs-up and a warm smile.

He stands in front of the tetherball pole and closes his eyes.

It stays on his face as he counts down.

This should go on for ten real seconds.

At zero, he opens his eyes to see--

--Kel crouched down on the other side of the tetherball pole, right at Omori's face, giggling to himself. He is nowhere near trying.

In what must be a new world record, before Omori even moves, he has "found" Kel.

KEL
(pretends to be surprised)
Oh wow, you found me. Now I can
help you find everyone else!
(whispers)
Just don't tell Berly, got it?

MONTAGE

--Bun and Nose hide under the slide.

NOSE
Nose goes!

BUN
(whispers)
Shhh! If you're too loud, they'll
hear us.

NOSE
Nose goes! Bun goes!

BUN
Be quiet, Nose! We're hiding,
remember?

--Omori and Kel spot Van trying his best to hide his robust stature behind a couple of bulky trees.

VAN
Turns out there's not many places
for me to hide.

--Omori and Kel spot Aubrey hiding behind a bush. She's also barely trying, just going through the motions of Berly's game once again.

AUBREY
(pretends to be surprised)
Oh no, you found me. Darn.

--Omori, Kel and Aubrey spot Mikal sleeping on a tree branch.

KEL
Hey, Mikal!

Kel's booming voice startles Mikal awake.

MIKAL
Huh, where am I? What?
(sighs)
I was dreaming I was on my own
private beach.
(annoyed)
Thanks, Kel.

Kel gives Mikal a proud grin.

--Omori, Kel and Aubrey spot Brows frantically running around a tree.

BROWS
AHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!

--Omori, Kel and Aubrey spot Sharleen trying to blend in with a group of trees, similar to what Van had attempted.

Sharleen lets out a soft sigh.

--Omori, Kel and Aubrey spot Hero doing some exercises with a couple of people not involved in the game: A human girl named REN and a goat-boy named SHAWN.

HERO
(while catching his
breath)
Oh, hey guys. You know, I found a
really good hiding spot, but Shawn
and Ren invited me to do their
exercise routine. You should really
try this. Oh man, I'm tired.

KEL
You really don't know how to say
"no" to anyone, do you?

--the gang spot Bangs partially-hiding in the sand.

BANGS
Darn, you found me. I guess that
means I lose. Do you know what
Happy would say right now? She'd
say something like "Bangs, you
should try your best at everything!
How else will people see how
awesome you are?"

(MORE)

BANGS (CONT'D)
(sighs)
Next time, I guess...

--the gang spot Happy inside a medium-sized jack-in-a-box.
Omori turns the handle...again...and again...and again until--
--Happy POPS out.

HAPPY
Boing! You found me! That means I
gotta do something else now.
(pause)
Oh, I know! I'll count the alphabet
backwards. Z, Y, X, W, V, U, O,
M...O...

--the gang approaches the slide.

KEL
A-ha! We found you!

BUN
Awww, they found us.

NOSE
(ashamed)
Nose...goes...

BUN
Oh, Nose. You know I can't stay mad
at you.

--the gang spot a straw sticking out of a mound of sand near
the tetherball pole.

Omori pulls the straw out. After a few seconds, Berly RISES
from the sand, catches her breath.

BERLY
Took you guys long enough. I
thought I was gonna suffocate in
there. How'd you like my hiding
spot? Pretty good, don't cha think?

Berly scans the playground.

BERLY (CONT'D)
Seems like you found everyone else.
Unexpected, but I like the
tenacity!

Berly gives Omori a thumbs-up.

EXT. FOREST PLAYGROUND - VAST FOREST - LATER

In the same spots they were at the beginning:

BERLY
Now, let's go through final roll
call! TEN-HUT! Van!

VAN
Here as always, buddy.

Sharleen! BERLY SHARLEEN
(soft)
Here...

BERLY (CONT'D)
Mikal!

Mikal is asleep. Berly slaps him awake.

MIKAL
Hey! What gives?!

Happy! BERLY HAPPY
Here, here!

Brows! BERLY (CONT'D) BROWS
AHHHHHHHH!!!!!!

Brows races off to another part of the playground.

Bangs! BERLY (CONT'D) BANGS
(distant)
Here...

Bun! BERLY (CONT'D) BUN
Bun is here!

Nose! BERLY (CONT'D) NOSE
Nose goes!

Hero! BERLY (CONT'D) HERO
Present!

Kel! BERLY (CONT'D) KEL
(yawns)
You really gotta do this
every time?

Aubrey! BERLY (CONT'D) AUBREY
Here I am!

Berly sees an open space between Aubrey and Omori.

BERLY (CONT'D)
Where's Basil?

HERO
I think I saw him go hiding near
that tree over there.

Hero points to a giant tree next to the "NO BOSS ZONE" sign.

AUBREY
BASIL! Can you hear us?!

KEL
You can come out now! You won!

Nothing.

Omori, Kel, Aubrey and Hero approach the tree.

KEL (CONT'D)
Are you okay, Basil? You stuck up
there?

After a beat, a large purple rhinoceros PUSHES the tree flat
on the ground, revealing it to be a cardboard cutout.

He holds Basil in one of his fists. This is BOSS.

BERLY
I should've known it was you, you
good-for-nothing scoundrel! Let
Basil go!

AUBREY
What did Basil ever do to you?!

Boss lets out a maniacal supervillain laugh.

BOSS
You stupid heads! You think this is
about Basil? Don't play dumb with
me. How DARE you not invite me to
hide-and-seeK! I'm the one who
showed you all how to play in the
first place. You're not even
playing it right! How can you call
it hide-and-seeK without any body-
slamming?!

BOSS
LEAPS in the air and lands...HARD.

It knocks Basil's flower crown off.

KEL

How could you?! Let go of him, you bully!

BOSS

If I can't play with everyone, then no one can! This is a Boss-Only Zone now. AND ALL OF YOU ARE NOT INVITED!

KEL, AUBREY AND HERO

all approach Boss. They're not taking this lightly.

Omori is about to join them but--

HERO

(to Omori)

Don't worry, Omori. We got this. We don't want you to be hurt, alright? Mari wouldn't like that.

KEL

LET BASIL GO!

BOSS

Make me!

KEL

Alright, you asked for it. Hector, ATTACK!

KEL

THROWS his pet rock at Boss.

It makes contact, but Boss doesn't even flinch.

BOSS

(laughs)

You call that an attack?

AUBREY

SWINGS at his leg with Mr. Plantegg.

BOSS

responds by PUNCHING her out of the way with his free hand.

HERO

Hey! You don't get to push around Aubrey like that! She's just a kid.

BOSS

So what? I'm a kid, too. And I want to PLAY!!!

BOSS
THROWS HIS BODY on top of Hero, but...

HERO
ROLLS out of way.

With Boss on his stomach:

AUBREY
goes back to SWINGING Mr. Plantegg at him while...

KEL
CLIMBS on his back and PULLS the horn on his head.

He holds on for dear life as Boss attempts to shake him off.

BOSS (CONT'D)
Hey, that hurts! This isn't fun
anymore!

All the while, Basil becomes visibly woozy after being shaken around so much.

Amidst the fray, Omori notices this and makes a B-line towards him. He PULLS him out of Boss's hand and scamper a safe distance away from him.

BOSS (CONT'D)
I'm done! I'm done! I call uncle!
UNCLE!!

Aubrey and Kel back away from Boss, allows him to stand back up.

BOSS (CONT'D)
THIS ISN'T FAIR! REMATCH! I CALL
REMATCH!!!

Aubrey picks up the flower crown, hands it back to Basil.

AUBREY
Are you alright, Basil?

BASIL
Ah, don't worry about me. I'm fine.
(to Boss)
Hey, Boss...just because you think
it hurts to see people have fun
without you, doesn't mean you can
ruin it.

BOSS
(mumbles)
Hmph. I know that.

Basil notices the poster next to Boss.

BASIL
How about this?

Basil heads to the poster and rips it off the wooden plank.

AUBREY
Are you sure it's okay to do that?

KEL
Yeah! Boss is bad news!

BASIL
It's okay. He wasn't trying to hurt me. In fact, I believe he's a pretty sweet guy. Just misunderstood, that's all.

BOSS
(embarrassed)
That's a load of baloney. I don't need to hear these lies. This is my spot! No one is welcome here!

Boss picks up the cardboard tree and hides behind it, out of sight once more.

AUBREY
Should we let him be?

HERO
I think he's fine.

EXT. PICNIC BLANKET

As the gang arrive back:

MARI
Oh my god, Basil! Are you alright?

BASIL
I'm fine. Don't worry about me.
It's nothing.

MARI
It's *not* nothing! Of course I need to worry about you.

BASIL
Fortunately, Omori was able to get me out of there before anything bad happened.

MARI

Oh, Omori.

With a little bit of a limp, Mari stands up and gives Omori a BIG hug.

MARI (CONT'D)

What are you doing making your big sister worry like that? You could've gotten hurt out there.

After a few seconds, Omori wraps his arms around his dear older sister.

He closes his eyes, savors the moment.

I/E. WHITE SPACE

Omori sits at his laptop. He pulls up a tab labeled "**Digital Journal**".

Twenty-eight boxes titled "**Day ???**" pop up.

All but one box has a log which reads "**Today I spent time in White Space. Everything was okay.**" or "**Today I visited my friends. Everything was okay.**"

In a box on the bottom right corner, Omori types out the latter phrase.

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE - **SPRING, 2000 - REAL WORLD**

Mid-day. A clock next to the bed reads "**1:43pm**".

A fairly minimalist bedroom. Comic books and video games are arranged neatly on a wooden shelf.

Stacks of annotated books clutter a computer desk. Baron Munchausen. Alice in Wonderland. Wizard of Oz.

In the corner of the desk, beside an old Windows box computer, two small piles of homework rest in separate metal trays.

One tray is labeled "**Unfinished**", the other "**Turn In**".

Sunlight pours through the open window, slowly creeping across the bed where SUNNY SUZUKI (16) sleeps, his head turned away from the light.

He turns around and gets rudely awoken by the sun's rays.

At this moment, it becomes clear the world we just witnessed was inside Sunny's head, experienced through the persona of his younger self, Omori.

From his bed, Sunny spots a piece of paper sitting on a desk next to the bedroom door. It's a To-Do List.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - STAIRCASE - SUZUKI HOUSE

A balcony which is connected by a staircase going downstairs.

Three doors and a window line the far wall, the window positioned to align with the stairs.

Sunny exits the door on the right, his bedroom, and heads to the left, which is the--

INT. BATHROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE

Sunny brushes his teeth. A sticky note on the mirror reads **"Remember to brush your teeth every day! Love you, XOXO - Mommy"**

INT. KITCHEN - SUZUKI HOUSE

A calendar on the wall shows the month of **April in 2000.**

Soapy water fills up a sink full of dishes.

He turns off the sink faucet, washes a steak knife and leaves it to dry on a dish rack.

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE

Slouched in his chair, Sunny plays a game of Solitaire on the computer.

A menacing figure of a shark with glasses and a nice suit is displayed in the corner of the screen.

A headshot of a gator with glasses are plastered on the back of the cards.

Despite his lack of interest, Sunny takes out the last set of cards with ease. A flurry of fireworks cover the screen.

INT. LAUNDRY ROOM - LIVING ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE

A bushel of dark clothes tumble and swirl in a washing machine.

Sunny sits on top of it, reading from a comic book titled **"Captain Spaceboy's Space Adventure #13"**

INT. LIVING ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE

A family portrait of Sunny, Mari, and their parents hangs proudly on the far wall next to a grimy sliding glass door.

Sunny sprays the portrait with window cleaner and wipes it down with a napkin.

He then intentionally passes by the sliding glass door and heads to a window which looks out down the street.

Sunny tears a few more napkins from a large roll and carefully wipes the window, corner to corner.

Outside, a school bus comes to a stop. A handful of kids, all around Sunny's age, step off, laughing and talking as they break off into groups.

From the comfort of his own solitary confines, Sunny watches in silence.

He finishes cleaning the window, then leaves the living room with the spray bottle and dirty napkins.

What he doesn't seem to notice is he left the roll of paper towels behind on accident.

Silence.

Then--

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

--on the front door. Nothing.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

After a few more seconds, Sunny re-enters the living room.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

He nonchalantly grabs the roll of napkins and exits the living room again.

Sunny doesn't even acknowledge the knocking.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

INT. BATHROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE

Sunny sits in the bathtub, motionless.

His eyes stare straight ahead, arms wrapped around his legs. His hair remains completely dry.

He is lost in thought. A moment of stillness.

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE - EVENING

Sunny lies on his stomach on the bed, earbuds in, listening to a somber piano track playing from a video cassette recorder.

Note: This is intended to be the track "Title" from the game's soundtrack.

The track ends and the next one plays: A more a gentle and relaxing piano piece with flute accompaniment.

This time it's the track "By Your Side."

He flips to the other side of the bed and spots a blinking red light on the landline phone on his nightstand.

While the music still plays, he gets up, presses the button. A voicemail plays:

MOMMY (O.S.)

Hey, Sunny. Sorry I wasn't able to see you today. Work has been a bit of a hassle but Mommy has some big news! I just finished talking with a very nice man who will help us move into a new place in the city. I know moving can be a little nerve-wracking and might be a bit off your usual routine, but I think the scenery will be positive for the both of us! It's only a few blocks from work and you'll get the chance to start a new leaf. We'll start a new leaf. Together.

(a pause)

Anyways, I'll let you know when the moving date is so we'll get ready to pack up our things. Mommy's got this figured out.

(MORE)

MOMMY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
All you have to do is keep up with
the chores and do the schoolwork
I've been assigning you and we'll
be just fine. Okay, that's it for
now. Mommy loves you! Bye, sweetie!

The voicemail ends.

Sunny is frozen in place, unable to move out of shock. The news is not sitting well with him.

His consistently listless expression slowly changes into one of confusion and worry. Lots and lots of worry.

Whatever thoughts and scenarios are playing in his head at this very moment, and for the foreseeable future, moves him to tears.

The track ends. The display screen on the recorder shows the track numbers going backwards at a million miles a second until it returns to the beginning of the track list.

I/E. WHITE SPACE

Floating red hands wander the white void surrounding the blanket.

Omori is drawing in his sketchbook.

He is putting the finishing touches on a mandala, a symbol which displays one's consciousness.

In it, Omori's face is surrounded by red hands which are extended towards a pair of knives which are pointed at a dark shadow with a single eyeball.

As he finishes--

--the sound of something metallic falling can be heard nearby.

Omori scans the area, finds a small silver dot in the distance.

He approaches the object and discovers--

--it's a steak knife. Omori picks it up, examines it.

EXT. PICNIC BLANKET - FOREST PLAYGROUND - **HEADSPACE**

Back to a sense of comfort, a sense of familiarity.

Mari and Basil look through a photo album.

Omori, Aubrey, Kel, Hero join them once again.

HERO
Hey, Mari!

MARI
(looks up; waves)
Hey, guys!

The gang sit down next to the pair.

MARI (CONT'D)
We were just looking through
Basil's photo album. Do you wanna
join us?

AUBREY
What do you mean? We're in the
pictures. Of course we'll join you!

MARI
(to Basil)
Is that alright with you?

BASIL
Sure. It's nothing amazing, though.

Basil places the photo album in the center of the group and
lays it open flat on the first page.

PHOTO ALBUM

Here, the group, as well as the audience, gets a good look at
the following photos:

- Omori and Kel hold up a flower crown to the camera.
- With flower crowns on their heads, Aubrey and Mari put the finishing touches on Basil's crown.
- Hero concentrates on making his flower crown. He's about halfway there.
- Aubrey gives a big smile for the camera after taking a big bite out of a piece of watermelon, even though she has some seeds on her face. No one's told her yet.
- Kel is in the middle of drinking a bottle of milk, his favorite drink.
- Basil is reading a story to Omori under a tree stump.

- Hero is hugging an annoyed Kel and tries to lean in for a smooch. Brotherly love caught on film.
- With Mari in front of the camera, she captures a group photo of everyone on the blanket.
- Hero and Mari laugh together as Aubrey, Kel and Omori fall asleep around them. Omori's head rests on Mari's legs.
- Kel takes a picture of himself while messing around with the camera.
- A picture of everyone's feet made into a circle. Omori's black socks are contrasted with everyone else's bare feet.

As they flip through the pages:

HERO

These are really charming. You really know how to capture the moment.

BASIL

Thanks, but I think some of the credit's gotta go to Mari. She does like to steal my camera sometimes.

MARI

(laughs)
Only sometimes!

They finish.

Basil closes the album.

BASIL

Hey, I've got an idea! Why don't we head over to my place? I just fixed up my garden and planted some new sprouts. I'd love to show you guys-- they're really cute!

The three responds at the same time:

KEL

Sure, that sounds fun!

AUBREY

Yeah!

HERO

Sounds like a great idea!

MARI

I think I'll sit this one out. You all go on and enjoy yourselves!

Everyone except for Mari gets up from the blanket.

AUBREY

Bye, Mari! See you soon!

They all wave goodbye to Mari as they head through the--

EXT. FOREST PLAYGROUND

Omori trails behind the group as they cross through the playground.

When...something catches his eye.

He turns toward the forest tree line and sees--

--a tall, gangly, black figure wearing a hat, holding a glowing lantern.

Omori glances around the playground. No one else notices.

Their eyes meet for a moment, until--

HERO

Hey, Omori! OMORI!

Hero breaks his trance.

HERO (CONT'D)

What are you looking at, buddy?

Omori turns back to the tree line.

The figure is gone.

HERO (CONT'D)

Come on. I'll let you be at the front of the line this time.

Hero escorts Omori back to the group.

EXT. BASIL'S GARDEN - VAST FOREST

A picturesque potager garden. Six neatly arranged beds of vibrant flowers create a colorful patchwork: one each for sunflowers, lily-of-the-valleys, roses, gladioluses, cacti, and tulips.

Basil leads the group as they hop on the stone path which stretches down the middle of the garden.

He signals towards the sunflower bed to his left.

BASIL

These are sunflowers. They're called that because they always face the sun. That's how I want to be like. Someone who always sees the bright side of things.

Then to the lily-of-the-valley flowers to his right--

BASIL (CONT'D)

These are called lily-of-the-valley. It's said they ward off evil spirits and help people seek out a brighter future. I guess that's why they remind me of Mari. I can always count on her to help me stay positive.

They go further down the path to the middle row. To the roses on the left--

BASIL (CONT'D)

These are roses. I'm so glad I'm able to spruce things up and get a variety of colors. And it's fascinating because each color have their own unique meanings.

(points to one of them)

That pink one symbolizes admiration, orange means passion, yellow means friendship and so on. But regardless of what they are, each and every one is universally loved the same. That versatility reminds me a lot of you, Hero.

HERO

Awww. Thanks, Basil.

Now to the gladiolus on his right--

BASIL

These are a type of flower called the gladiolus, also known as the "sword flower". They represent strength of character. Someone who's honest, with strong moral values. Someone who stands by their convictions and knows what they really want. That confidence reminds me of Aubrey.

KEL

Oh, I see. So what you're saying is
Aubrey is really stubborn.

AUBREY

Hey! No I'm not!

BASIL

Okay...moving on.

They head to the final row of flowers.

To the cacti to their left--

KEL

Whoa! What is this flower called?
They're all cool and spiky.

BASIL

Actually, this is a cactus. It's
more of a plant than a flower. It's
funny you ask that, because they
remind me of you.

AUBREY

Is it because...he's a prick?

KEL

Hey!

BASIL

It's because cacti are very sturdy
and resilient plants by nature.
They don't need much care and can
survive even in seemingly
impossible conditions. Even *you*
could take care of a cactus, Kel.

And, finally, to the tulips on Basil's right--

BASIL (CONT'D)

And these are white tulips. Plain,
simple, and bulbous--just like
Omori.

(a pause)

I don't know. I just think it's
cute.

As they step off the stone path--

AUBREY

You've done a really great job with
these flowers.

KEL
Yeah! I'm gonna get myself a
million catcuses!

BASIL
(laughs)
It's cacti, Kel.

EXT. HILL OF TREES - VAST FOREST

A massive hill, blanketed in trees, rises in the center of a
grassy clearing.

The group circles around to the south, where a set of stairs
leads up into an opening in the trees.

EXT. BASIL'S HOUSE - VAST FOREST

Sunlight filters through the towering trees above.

On an island, surrounded by a small moat, stands a large, old
shoe fashioned into a house.

Smaller trees grow around it, with potted plants and flowers
scattered everywhere.

The five friends approaches a short wooden bridge that leads
to the island.

Suddenly, Basil hurries to the front, pulling out his camera.

BASIL
Say cheese!

SNAP

BASIL (CONT'D)
Aww, it came out kind of blurry.
Well, that's okay. That gives it
character.

AUBREY
I wanna see it!

Aubrey runs towards Basil, gets a peek at the picture.

AUBREY (CONT'D)
We all look so cute!

Hero follows suit.

HERO
How's my hair?

Then Kel tags along.

KEL
I WANNA SEE! I WANNA SEE!

Finally, Omori joins the group.

BASIL
Hey, Omori. Do you want to look at
the photo, too?

Basil shows Omori the photo:

- It's a blurry group photo. Omori keeps his usual neutral expression while Kel, Aubrey and Hero all smile for the camera.

BASIL (CONT'D)
If you guys all like it, sounds
like it's going into the
collection.

Basil pulls the photo album from his bag and inserts the photo in the next available open spot.

Kel attempts to squeeze past Aubrey for a good look at the photo.

KEL
Move over. I can't see.

He PUSHES her out of the way.

AUBREY
Hey! Don't push me!

Aubrey PUSHES Kel back. Hard.

KEL
You already had your turn!!

He shoves her again.

AUBREY
GET OUT OF MY WAY, KEL!

Aubrey returns the favor.

BASIL
Wait, hold on! There's no need to
fight.

Now a little off-balance, Kel accidentally PUSHES Aubrey into Basil, KNOCKING him over and causing him to drop the photo album. A few photos slip through and fall on the grass.

Everybody stops.

KEL
Uhh...whoops.

AUBREY
Oh my gosh! Basil...I'm so sorry.

HERO
Are you okay?
(to Kel and Aubrey)
And you two! This is why the both
of you need to learn how to get
along!

KEL
I'm sorry...we didn't mean it.
Please don't tell Mari.

BASIL
It's okay. Don't worry about it.
Accidents happen.

Basil picks up two of the stray photos. Hero finds the third one, hands it to him.

HERO
Here you go. Doesn't look like any
of them got damaged. Let's all
pitch in and help Basil put them
back in the album.
(to Aubrey and Kel)
Right?!

AUBREY
(embarrassed)
Right.

KEL
(dips his head;
dejected)
Yeah. Right.

INT. BASIL'S HOUSE - **HEADSPACE**

A quaint, peaceful one-room home. Potted plants and flowers line all four walls.

Just like at the blanket, the five friends sit around the photo album in the middle of the room.

Basil is flipping through flips the pages as the remaining four discuss amongst each other as to what photo goes where.

As they put the final photo in its right place--

BASIL

Good as new.

Basil closes the photo album.

KEL

I'm sorry for pushing you over.
(under his breath)
Even though half of it was Aubrey's
fault...

AUBREY

Yeah, I promise to never fight with
Kel ever again!
(under her breath)
Unless she starts it first...

BASIL

Don't worry about it. I know what
you did wasn't malicious. Alright,
let's head back to Mari.

Basil picks up the album and heads for the front door.

Along the way--

--another photo slips out, floats down to the floor.

Basil notices this, picks it up.

With his back to the group (and the audience), he takes a
look at the photo.

At that moment, his face switches from one of optimism and
passivity to one of concern and fear.

BASIL (CONT'D)

Huh? What is this? Did I...take
this?

Suddenly, a BLACK MASS comes to form beneath him.

Multiple tentacles extend from the mass as if they are tree
roots, spreading out under the rest of the group.

BASIL (CONT'D)

No...That can't be.

He turns to the group, lock eyes with Omori with a look of
severe dread. Tears well up in his eyes.

BASIL (CONT'D)
Omori...Help--

Mid-sentence, it--

CUT TO BLACK

A fast heartbeat.

THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP

I/E. WHITE SPACE

Omori's eyes snap open.

He stares at the black bulb, his breathing quickening, teetering on the edge of hyperventilation.

He scrambles to his sketchbook.

Disturbing drawings fill almost every page. His breathing slows as he flips through more familiar images.

But when he reaches the last page, his breath catches again:

It's a simple sketch of a tall, shadowy figure with a single, vertical eye.

For reasons which are well known to Omori/Sunny, and later revealed to the audience, this will be referred to as SOMETHING.

THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP

MEWO
Meow (Not much to do around here,
is there?)

Omori closes the sketchbook shut, turns to Mewo.

MEWO (CONT'D)
Meow (Or is there?)
(a pause)
Meow (Are you looking for a way
out?)
(a pause)
Meow (There always is one, but...)
(a pause)
Meow (Waiting for something to
happen?)

After a few seconds, Omori has a realization: He does know of a way out.

He takes out the shiny knife...closes his eyes...

***THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THUMP*
THUMP THUMP *THUMP THUMP***

...inhale...exhale...inhale...exhale...

***THUMP THUMP* *THUMP THU--**

--and **SHOVES THE BLADE IN HIS STOMACH!!!!**

He falls to his knees, collapses on the floor.

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM - SUZUKI HOUSE - NIGHT - **SUMMER, 2000 -
1:43 AM**

The dead of night. The shelf and computer desk are now empty. Cardboard boxes are littered around the room.

In bed, Sunny wakes up.

Something catches the corner of his eye:

It's his landline phone. Another voicemail.

He gets out of bed, presses the button.

MOMMY

Hey, Sunny. I'm still in the city setting things up for our new home. Did you finish packing yet? The movers are going to be at our house in a few days, so I left a couple extra things for you to do along with your normal chores.

(pause)

Also, sorry. Mommy messed up. I forgot to tell the electric company we need a few extra days before we're ready to move, so the lights might cut out sometime tonight.

(pause)

I wish I know what's going on in that little head of yours during all this, but I know you'll be able to power through this. I know you haven't talked to anyone in a while, but you might want to say goodbye to your old friends before we leave. Kel has been trying to call us every day since we put our house up for sale a few months ago. Just to spend some time with you.

(MORE)

MOMMY (CONT'D)

He seems a little lonely. Maybe you should pay him a visit. Okay, that's it for now. Mommy loves you! Bye, sweetie!

The voicemail ends.

Sunny's stomach growls at him.

He spots a sticky note next to the phone.

It reads: **"I left some steak in the fridge for you downstairs just as you like it! Love you, XOXO" - Mommy.**

INT. SECOND FLOOR - STAIRCASE - SUZUKI HOUSE

From the top step, Sunny looks down at the pitch black darkness which awaits him.

He is having a stare down with whatever horrifying image he can conjure up in the dark abyss.

After a few seconds (which feel like thirty), Sunny gently takes his first step down the stairs, the wood creaks under his foot.

Upon hearing the creak, however--

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM

Sunny is back under the covers of his very, very comfortable bed when--

--his stomach growls again. He's still hungry.

He gets *back* out of bed and exits the bedroom *again*.

Only this time--

INT. SECOND FLOOR - STAIRCASE - **HALLUCINATION**

--an eerie red glow radiates through the balcony window.

Sunny tries opening the bedroom door behind him. It's locked.

He examines the light coming through the window. He stands in its glow, which casts a straight line going down the stairs.

He returns to the top of the stairs.

After a few seconds, Sunny takes his first step down the--

STAIRS

Then takes the next step. And the next step. And the next step.

As he keeps going, it's revealed the stairs go as far as the eye can see.

There is no end in sight.

LATER

Further down the stairs. Sunny spots something on one of the steps.

Sunny gets closer. His vision gets darker.

But he's able to see the object. It's--

--the shiny knife.

Sunny picks it up and keeps going.

In the corner of his eye, he sees images of black hands floating towards him.

He goes faster.

After a second, he turns around.

A LARGE HUMAN HAND is chasing after him.

Sunny goes double time.

As his heart keeps racing...he HOPS over a few steps in order to gain some ground...but he can't shake it.

The hand gets closer. The black hands back away.

It hovers over him...it's about to strike...when--

--Sunny stops.

The hand is gone. Something growls behind him.

He turns around and comes face to face with--

--a large grinning face emanating from the darkness along with seven blue, realistic outstretched hands.

This is SOMETHING IN THE DARK.

SUNNY

SWINGS his knife at the phobia in desperation, but it passes right through.

S.I.T.D.

PRESSES a hand to Sunny's chest, trying to SHOVE HIM DOWN THE STAIRS.

SUNNY

CATCHES himself by gripping both railings, steadying himself on the step below.

Sunny pulls himself back up and SWINGS again.

Nothing.

It speaks to him in a warped female voice.

SOMETHING IN THE DARK

Take a deep breath. Don't be afraid. It's not as scary as you think.

Sunny grabs both railings for good measure and closes his eyes.

Inhale...Exhale...Inhale...Exhale...

INT. FIRST FLOOR - STAIRCASE - SUZUKI HOUSE - **HALLUCINATION**

Calm again. The red light is gone.

A door sits on either side of the stairs.

Sunny now stands on the first step at the bottom of the stairs.

He takes a couple of deep breaths and opens his eyes.

He has conquered his fear of heights.

INT. KITCHEN - **HALLUCINATION**

Sunny idly waits while his plate of cold steak is being heated up in the microwave.

BEEP* *BEEP* *BEEP

Sunny puts the "well-done" steak on the counter, grabs a steak knife, and cuts it into bite-sized chunks.

He eats the steak.

A moment of stillness after such a hectic event.

His stomach growls again, but this time it sounds different.
Very different.

INT. BATHROOM - **HALLUCINATION**

Slumped down, Sunny pukes in the toilet until only phlegm
drolls from his mouth. He stands up and flushes the toilet.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - STAIRCASE - **HALLUCINATION**

As he exits the bathroom, he hears a--

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK --from the front door.

Sunny is afraid. He's the only person in the house, nor could
there be anyone else.

He heads downstairs and into the--

INT. LIVING ROOM - **HALLUCINATION**

It's nearly empty. More cardboard boxes are stacked against
the walls.

Everything, including the family portrait--are all boxed up.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

Sunny approaches the front door.

MARI (O.S.)

Hey, Sunny. It's Mari. I forgot my
keys. Could you open the door for
me?

It takes him a few seconds before he grabs the doorknob.

Sunny opens the door, peeks through the crack.

Something is moving on the other side. **It looks like Mari...**

He pulls open the door and sees--

**--A TERRIFYING FIGURE IN A WHITE DRESS WITH AN ELONGATED
HEAD, GAPING MOUTH AND BLACK HOLES FOR EYES!!!**

This isn't Mari. This is HELLMARI.

He IMMEDIATELY SHUTS the door, RACES back into the--

INT. FIRST FLOOR

--up the staircase to the--

INT. SECOND FLOOR

--and straight into--

INT. SUNNY'S ROOM

--where he LEAPS back into bed. He squeezes his eyes shut and takes many more deep breaths.

I/E. WHITE SPACE

Omori wakes up beside his laptop. It's already booted up, displaying the desktop page.

The screen goes black. A single blinking cursor sits in the top left corner.

A dialogue box appears. It reads:

For the Dreamer: It's Time to Stop Waiting. It's Time to Face the Noise. It's Time to Learn The Truth.

INT. NEIGHBOR'S ROOM - **HEADSPACE**

Aubrey, Kel, and Hero sit around the scattered pile of cards. Only this time, they are talking amongst themselves, clearly tense about something.

And just like last time, Aubrey is the first one to spot Omori. She rushes to him, followed by Kel and Hero.

AUBREY

Omori! Thank goodness you're here.

KEL

Have you seen Basil? We can't find him anywhere.

HERO

We should go tell Mari you're okay. She's been worried sick.

Omori hesitates, unsure how to respond.

He exchanges worried glances with the three, which says "***This isn't supposed to happen.***"

END EPISODE

As the credits roll--

EXT. NORTH COAST - VAST FOREST - **HEADSPACE**

--Omori, Kel, Aubrey, and Hero are playing at a beach. The tree stump can be seen in the background.

Omori and Kel are making sand castles while Aubrey and Hero play "Marco Polo" in the water.