MOOP SAMPLE SCENES

GRACE

JUMP CUT to GRACE, JACKSON, LUCAS, LULU, NATHANIEL, and RYAN awkwardly standing in the alley, staring with awe into the portal. JACKSON and LULU are in the exact same place and positions. NATHANIEL’s eye is somehow even worse than before.

JACKSON

Didn't take long.

LULU

(to NATHANIEL)

Flashlight?

NATHANIEL

Oh, definitely.

NATHANIEL produces one out of the bookbag he’s toting. JACKSON slumps down against a wall that doesn't have a black hole coming from it.

LUCAS

So...we’re going in that?

LULU

(off-guard)

What?

LUCAS

We’re not going in the thing?

LULU’s not following.

NATHANIEL

He’s asking if we’re gonna go through the portal to kill whatever’s in there.

(to LUCAS)

Which I don’t think is a good idea.

LULU

No, I was just getting everybody on standby in case something came out of here.

JACKSON

I am honestly surprised that hasn’t happened yet.

GRACE

So we’re *not* going in that.

LULU

No idea.

LUCAS

I mean we should do *something*.

RYAN

Go in it?

GRACE

Hell no.

RYAN

I’m just saying...

JACKSON

We can go home cause we’ve been here for like two hours.

LULU

Seven, actually. It’s five in the morning. And clearly if this thing is here, *something’s* gonna come out of it.

RYAN

Or...maybe it’s luring us in.

JACKSON

He’s got a point.

(beat)

LULU

We’re going in there.

NATHANIEL  
What?

GRACE

So we’re just going in the gaping wall-hole without even knowing what it is?

LULU

It’s been seven hours, Grace.

GRACE

This is a terrible fucking idea!

LULU

And yet here we are.

RYAN

You are aware that this is gonna keep happening, right?

JACKSON

Is it?

GRACE

Okay, so, our choices are suffer out here or we all kill ourselves.

JACKSON

Pretty much.

GRACE

I can’t do this...

RYAN

You kinda have to.

GRACE

We don’t “have to” anything!

LUCAS

How bout this: if you want to go in the portal, go in the portal.

LULU

Bad idea.

NATHANIEL

We do tend to die when separated.

JACKSON

(ignored)

Not yet.

GRACE

Or not seperated. I’m not. Going. In there.

RYAN

No one’s saying you have to. We’re just saying that it’s really dumb if you don’t.

LUCAS

Is *that* what we’re saying?

JACKSON

You are kinda speaking for us.

LUCAS

(to JACKSON)

Right?

NATHANIEL

Lulu, I get what you’re saying but we’re not going in there.

GRACE

Exactly.

LULU

(to NATHANIEL)

Nothing’s happened.

NATHANIEL

Which is why we should stay here and wait for what’s obviously gonna come out of there and try to kill us!

LULU

*Obviously*.

NATHANIEL

You’re saying every time these show up, there’s a monster *except* now?

LULU

Except now. Cause, y’know, seven hours.

GRACE

I don’t even think we should keep waiting.

RYAN

You serious?

GRACE

Nothing’s happened, Lulu just said it.

LULU  
Yeah, not what I meant at all.

LUCAS

Why?

GRACE

I have shit to do that’s not...*this*?

LULU

(oh really?)

What exactly do you do?

GRACE

(deadpan)

Oh, y’know the stuff where I don’t have to get horribly mamed. Y’know that stuff.

(beat)

LULU

Grace, do you want this to stop or not.

GRACE

Yeah, but we’re-

To EVERYONE:

LULU

We’re going in the portal.

MOOP SAMPLE SCENES

RYAN

INT. RYAN’S FAMILY’S LIVING ROOM - DAY

RYAN

(very quickly)

We need to go. I think I know what it’s gonna do.

THE MOOP

(DRIVING MAN)

Hi.

On RYAN’s face. We never see who he’s talking too.

THE MOOP

Been awhile. Jesus.

GRACE is sinking into the floor. We hold on RYAN’s face for a beat.

RYAN

(shaky)

This already hap-

THE MOOP

(Casual)

Don’t bullshit me, this can happen as long as I want. This isn’t gonna stop.

INT. RYAN’S DAD’S CAR - DAY

The car’s parked. RYAN stares at the window. We still don’t see who RYAN’s talking too.

RYAN  
I tried.

THE MOOP laughs.

THE MOOP

Heh. Um, no.

(beat)

THE MOOP

See, I’m not putting us here to upset you, you’re sitting here because I want you to know what this does to me. It’s fucking embarrassing.

RYAN  
You can’t just use something that already happened.

THE MOOP

Do you think I *like* her telling me that the deadline was missed?

RYAN

Wasn’t the deadline.

THE MOOP

Or that you *lied* about it being moved ahead. Lied just

RYAN

It wasn-

THE MOOP

-to fuck off online or whatever. You-

RYAN  
IT WASN’T THE DEADLINE! That was the **checkpoint**! You could’ve read the fucking handout! There are individual deadlines before the final deadline.

THE MOOP

Oh, don’t get upset. Don’t get upset at me because you fucked up.

RYAN

I-

THE MOOP

Again. Backfiring, blowing up in your stupid fucking face.

(beat)

THE MOOP

Stupid!

RYAN’s eyes have that about-to-cry look about them.

RYAN

You’re not...

He searches for the word.

RYAN  
...him.

He’s crying.

RYAN

You’re a fucking...caricature.

THE MOOP laughs and takes the wheel like it’s about to drive the not-a-car.

THE MOOP

Well, you’re not wrong. I’m not your father, Ryan. If I was, we’d get home, and we wouldn't talk for the next two weeks.

A rat’s tail slivers up RYAN’s shirt sleeve. THE MOOP’s head is still looking at the road. The car is still not moving.

THE MOOP

Instead I’m gonna break your back.

MOOP SAMPLE SCENES

NATHANIEL

EXT. GRACE’S STREET - DAY

LUCAS

This uh, this isn’t that bad, right?

NATHANIEL

It is.

LUCAS and NATHANIEL briskly walk down the sidewalk. The latter has a BACKPACK. LUCAS looks around and behind him, jumpy.

LUCAS

(ignoring him)

We’re just...checking up on her. Just making sure she’s not-

NATHANIEL  
Dead?

LUCAS

*Affected by our problems*. And also shut up.

(beat)

NATHANIEL

I mean, I don’t think *we’re* gonna die. If any inanimate objects try to kill us, we’ll just do that thing you talked about, y’know, the...double teaming…

LUCAS

It’s tag-teaming. And yeah, obviously. And thanks, by the way.

NATHANIEL

For...trying and failing to get the glass out your ear?

We see LUCAS has retained 3 LARGE GASHES in his right ear.

LUCAS

Yeah, *that too*, but also trying to not freak me out.

NATHANIEL

It’s cool.

LUCAS (CONT’D)

Your casualness about maybe dying is weirdly calming.

NATHANIEL  
It’s my job.

A loud RUSTLING is heard OS, causing their heads to WHIP in it’s direction.

LUCAS

Wait, what the-

MOOP SAMPLE SCENES

LUCAS

INT. MOOP TUNNEL 4 - NIGHT

JACKSON and LUCAS constantly check for something trying to kill them as they walk.

JACKSON

Y'lnow what I just realised?

LUCAS nods.

JACKSON

I coulda gone to your place.

There’s a beat of LUCAS realizing what JACKSON’s talking about.

LUCAS

Wait, like yesterday?

JACKSON

Yeah. Also it was the day before.

They step over a dog’s torso dissolving into the ground as they’re talking. They’re talking a bit faster, more excited to distract themselves.

LUCAS

You think it wouldn’t have happened there?

JACKSON

I mean, it came from my house.

(beat)

JACKSON

You think it would it would happen at your place?

LUCAS

No, not really. I don’t think it has to do with where it is though.

JACKSON

(“go on…”)

Ok.

LUCAS

I think this thing knows you.

On JACKSON taking this in.

LUCAS

I’m serious, I-

JACKSON

It’s the fuckin...it’s The Moop. It’s a thing that I made up when I was a dumbass.

LUCAS

Yeah, but you know like, what if it followed you?

JACKSON

Ryan had a word for this. He called it “Exposition through panic”.

LUCAS

He had a word for what?

JACKSON

What we’re doing now. He called it that, and we were talking about the thing, actually. It’s when characters would like completely freak out and just dump exposition. During like a really panicked scene. If you know what you’re doing you can avoid it, but because my writing was shitty, it would show up.

LUCAS

You’re writing wasn’t shitty.

JACKSON

I mean, you didn’t...you didn’t read it.

LUCAS

Yeah I did.

(beat)

JACKSON

Did you actually though?

LUCAS

Yeah, the script.

A *splash* OS.

JACKSON

Wait, quiet.

LUCAS

What?