

MOTHER. How dare you! My pedigree is certified.

FATHER. Don't start it. Not on her day.

MOTHER. Who's starting this?

FATHER. There it is, your tendency, right there.

MOTHER. My tendency? You're projecting, yes you are, don't turn away, we both know it's in your profile.

FATHER. You don't know my profile! Don't you insinuate.

MOTHER. I don't have to see it to know it.

FATHER. I know why she's terrified.

MOTHER. Don't.

FATHER. Why she thinks she may not pass.

MOTHER. Don't you dare.

FATHER. Because her mother almost didn't. Her mother was a borderline. And she's terrified of that.

(The FATHER goes.)

(A waiting area. A group of kids, terrified, with suitcases. KIM is among them.)

(The MATRON and her ASSISTANT enter, ASSISTANT with clipboard.)

MATRON. Good morning! No smiles? You think this is a mistake. Oh but Matron, I don't belong here! The tests were wrong, give me a chance, let me show you. Am I right? Richard Davis!

(A hand goes up. The ASSISTANT reads from a file.)

ASSISTANT. Lack of focus. Tendency to disloyalty. Sudden verbal impulses.

RICHARD. It's not true!

MATRON. Thank you, Richard. Once upon a time there were spies. People who snooped, devices to record. All that is gone now. We already know. Everything that matters is in you. And it will never, ever change. Amanda Carlyle! I said, where is Amanda Carlyle?