

RICHARD and HELENA Sides

HELENA

Good night children. (They go to the back of the cave...Exit)

(To Richard)

Are you sure you're all right?

RICHARD

No. Not really. You?

HELENA

No. Not really. Twenty - five years I spend focused on saving my father and sister. I finally duplicate his work, and I accidentally pull you and the children into the past with me. And now I can't even seem to bring us all back. I've been reckless, and there's good chance some of us won't make it back.

RICHARD

At least you know where you stand. I feel like I'm adrift. My son doesn't listen to me; I've been raising the twins on my own. I have to spend most of my time on my career and books so I can provide a home for them.

HELENA

Three months till we can go back.

RICHARD

All these people depend on me.

HELENA

My older sister is still as young as she was when she disappeared.

RICHARD

Sometimes I just want to stop.

HELENA

And I still haven't found my father.

RICHARD

I've spent so much time between work and raising the twins, I've forgotten what it's like to be with someone. The saddest thing is: you don't miss what you can't remember.

HELENA

Can I ask...how did you lose your wife?

RICHARD

Nothing sinister or spectacular. She contracted ovarian cancer after having the twins. Completely inoperable. She refused chemo, as she didn't want the children to see her waste away. So one night she left us....that was six years ago...or rather several million years in the future.

HELENA

I'm sorry.

RICHARD

So am I. The family has done all right without a mother, but I wonder what it would be like.....

(Awkward silence)

HELENA

You know, I'm hungry.

RICHARD

(Opens his pack)

Wait...I have something. (pulls out a granola bar) Here.

HELENA

You had this all time....Why didn't you tell me?

RICHARD (with a wry smile)

And risk this very reaction?

HELENA (catches the joke) (laughs)

Look. It's been a long day. We need to get some sleep. After a good nights sleep, maybe we can figure a way out of this mess.

RICHARD

You go ahead. I'll stay up and keep watch till Ginger and Jeremiah get back.

HELENA

Night.

RICHARD

Night.