SARAH (CONT'D)
I would’ve thought how to change a
tire or at least some navigational
skills.

NOELLE
I don’t know what you want me to
say. Sorry I don’t have all of
Google Maps filed into my brain.

SARAH
God, you sound just like Dad when
you say stuff like that. Why
couldn’t you have gotten anything
other than his sarcasm?

NOELLE
What? You mean like his bald spot?

Noelle’s attempts to be funny go unappreciated by Sarah. She
walks away and Noelle leans against the side of the car.

Start Scene Here:

INT. DINER – NEAR BEND, OREGON – DAY.

The girls occupy a cracked leather booth, shoveling plates of
food down. The diner is rundown but homey.

SARAH
I owe you. For making me take this
trip.

NOELLE
I’m your sister. I’ll always be
there for you.

SARAH
I know, but I’m older, I’m supposed
to be taking care of you and I’ve
been doing a shitty job lately. I
wouldn’t be surprised if you were
over it. Over me.

Noelle and Sarah laugh. Beat.

NOELLE
(sensitive now)
What happened to you?

SARAH
What do you mean?
NOELLE
I mean, I know what happened. I just meant, you used to be way more outgoing. You would plan stuff on the weekends and you were so organized.

SARAH
I just hit a rough patch. Everything just sort of fell apart.

NOELLE
You don’t think I feel the same way?

SARAH
Yeah, but... I just feel like I can’t do anything right. Like everything’s going wrong.

NOELLE
I know it feels like that, but you can’t just quit life something bad happens. Sarah, you just stopped trying.

SARAH
What’s that supposed to mean?

NOELLE
It feels like you’re not even attempting to get yourself back on track. Believe me, it hasn’t been easy this year. But watching you? It’s just kind of sad.

SARAH
What the hell are you talking about?

NOELLE
I’m saying that at some point, you have to come back from the dead. Life is moving forward without you and you can’t expect everyone else to wait and pick up the pieces. I know I can’t.

SARAH
How can you say that?
   (pauses to look at Noelle)
Is just a pity trip for you?
   (MORE)
SARAH (CONT'D)
You think I’m just a screw up who’s wallowing in self pity and can’t care enough to fold her own laundry?

NOELLE
To be honest Sarah? Yeah. I went on this trip with you because I thought this would help you figure shit out. That you would pull it together. That isn’t supposed to be my job. I’ve had to put aside my feelings and my problems because you decided it would be easier to shut down.

SARAH
Well, I’m sorry that this didn’t go the way you wanted it to. (beat) And I’m sorry if you’re so bothered by my ineptitude as a person.

Noelle opens and shuts her mouth several times, trying to figure out what to say.

NOELLE
I’m sorry, but at some point, you need to grow up and accept what’s happened. Dad’s gone, and we’re all that’s left. I can’t keep holding your hand, at some point you have to walk alone and figure things out.

Sarah doesn’t respond.

NOELLE (CONT’D)
You know what, I’m over this. I’m going back to the hotel. Return your damn movie by yourself.

End Scene  Noelle storms out. Sarah remains in the booth, visibly upset.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY BUS STATION – EARLY EVENING.

Sarah sits alone, surrounded by emptiness — almost as if everyone waiting is mad at her too. She rests her head against the window behind her as the bus pulls up.